

An Epitome
OF
All the Lives of
the Kings of France.

From PHARAMOND the
first, to the now most Chri-
stian King LEVVIS the
thirteenth.

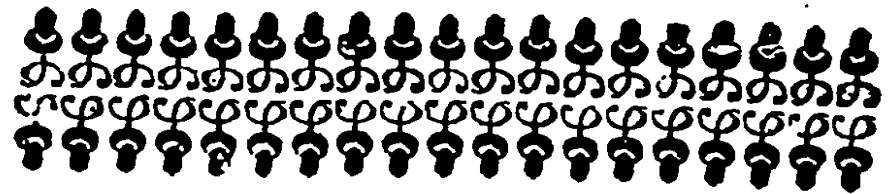
With a Relation of the Famous
Batrailes of the two Kings of
England, who were the first
victorious Princes that Con-
quered France.

Translated out of the French Coppy
by R. B. Esq.

L O N D O N :

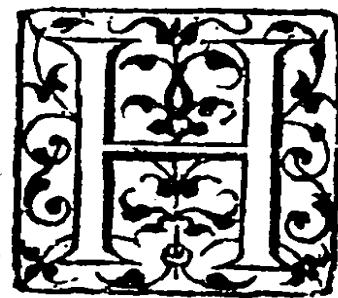
Printed by I. Okes, and are to be sold
by James Becket, at his shop within
the Inner Temple Gate 1639.

57... 1925



To the Generous
Reader, the Translator
*presents his La-
bours, &c.*

Courteous Reader,



History hath been
from all *Antiqui-
ty* as Noble as
Notable, and as
full of *Pleasure* as *Profit*.
Poetry I must confesse to be
the elder Sister of the two,
and the first reducer of

A 4

Man-

To the Reader.

Mankinde to Humanity and Civility : But what the Elder hath delivered unto us Fabulously, the other hath done faithfully.

Great is the Vtility which redounds to all men by History (of what function or quality soever:) First, to *Princes*, it is a modell, by which to paterne their Lives and Actions: And by reading the Heroicall deeds of others, to make their presidents, as well by imita-

To the Reader.

imitating their Vertues, as avoyding their Vices. To Statef-men how to establish politicke Lawes, and gravely to manage the Affaires of a flourishing Common-Weale. It instructs Soveraignes, how to governe with Justice, mixt with Lenity, and Subjects to obey with duty, tempered with loyalty.

Historiographers have in all Times and Ages, and amongst all Nations and Lan-

To the Reader.

Languages bin held in great reputation and reverence. Amongst the *Hebrewes Philo-Judeus*, and *Josephus Bengorion*, who flourisht in the time of *Hierusalem* last subversion, and depopulation, &c. Amongst the *Grecians Herodotus, Tbucidides*, &c. Amongst the *Romans* or *Latins*, *Titus Livius, Cornelius Tacitus, Salust, Iustine*, &c. Amongst the *French*, *Philip Comines* : The Author of the *French*

To the Reader.

French Inventory, the Composer of this *Epitome of Chronicle*, &c. Of the *Scotch, Hector Boetius, Georgius Buconanus*, &c. And of our *English* (to omit many) *Holynshed, Fabian, Speed, Mr. Samuel Daniel*, &c.

But concerning the present Argument now in agitation, I have read of one *Spintberus Tarentinus*, a man (for his knowne *VVisdomme*) by the unanimous voyce

To the Reader.

voyce of Greece, adding an Eight to the Seven Sages, who when he was to deliver his Opinion of *Epaminondas*, prime Captaine of absolute power, and command without limit; after he had studied to honour him with his best Expression, he uttered of him onely these few Words : *Hee was a man who knew much, and spake little.* The like I may say of the *Author* of this present *VVorke*, who writ

To the Reader.

writ it first in the *French Language* : who though hee were frequent in all the *French Annals*, having read all their *Voluminous* remembrances at large, yet was so farre from troubling the *Purse*, or tyring the *Patience* of the Reader, that in his succinctnesse of stile, & contractednesse of Circumstance, he hath strived to spare both: Imitating the old *Adage*,
in fine fit per plura, quod fieri potest

To the Reader.

potest per pauciora : and my
selfe who am the unworthi-
est of many in this *Kingdom*,
for the *Translation* of this
Worke, have undertaken to
make the *French History*,
which I found accidentally,
to speake *English* : where, in
the ensuing *Booke* thou shalt
finde such mixture of *Dis-*
courses, both *observeable*, *de-*
lightfull, and worthy to bee
had in *memory*, containing al
the Kings that ever were of
France, which in number are
sixty

To the Reader.

sixty foure, with their *Con-*
ditions, *Natures*, *chiefest Acts*,
and *Deaths*, as also of these-
verall places of their *Inter-*
ment, with many of their ac-
cute and witty sayings : all
which, noble and Courte-
ous *Reader*, I present unto
thee, with a Table of all the
Kings names at the latter
end of the *Book* : and if thou
pleasest to accept of my en-
deavours, and but cast a be-
nigne smile and a gentle cen-
sure, I shall take it a double
courte-

To the Reader.

courtesie, and labour to amend what hath beene done amisse. But least in commending the *Brevity* used in his *Discourse*, I might (on the contrary) erre in the prolixity of my *Epistle*, I thus (though abruptly) as commit thee, so commend thee to thy gentle *Interpretation* :

Thine,

R. B.

1
An Epitome of all the lives
of the Kings of *France*, from
Pharamond their first, to the now
Reigning *Lewis* the 13.

Pharamond the first King of
France. Anno 429.



THE *French* Nation inhabiting
the lower *Germany* long time
before the Reigne of the *Val-*
B *entinians*,

lentinians, Emperours of *Rome*, whether they were Originaries there, or Forraigners, they according to the report of *Aymoyms*, *Ado*, and other Historians, had for an intervall of time ceased to be governed by Kings, being contented to be ruled by Dukes, untill such time that they had a desire to returne to their manner and custome, being incited thereto by the example of other Nations; in so much that upon a mature deliberation, they concluded their Election upon *Pharamond* for their King, by reason that over and above the vertues resplendent in him, he was the last Sonne of their latest Duke *Marcomire*, who was Duke of *Franconia*, or *East France*, whom *Stilico* had confined as an Exulant in *Tuscany*, from the yeare of our Lord 395.

The time of his Election hath not beene precisely recorded by any Historians; the Moderne Authors also agree not upon the certainty and number of the yeares of his Reigne: For some

German

German Chronicles accompt but 7, others 9, *Onuphrus* 14, but almost all the *French* Annalists following *Sigebert*, agree upon 10. or 12. yeares, which they begin at the yeare of Grace, 419, or 420.

The *French-men* then estated him in the Castle of *Dispargun*, which was, according to *Gregory*, in *Tongry* or *Turingia*, on that side the *Rhine*, where hee made his residence, or rather in *Germany*, without an intent of enlarging his command any farther, studying onely to institute and found the Kingdom with good policy, and the Lawes called *Ripuary* and *Salique*, by reason the *French* inhabiting for the most part upon the River of *Sals*, (which disgorgeth it selfe into the *Mein*, a great and famous River of *Germany*) were called *Salians*, and their principall City *Selgestadt*, which peradventure might seeme to derive its nomination from *Salagast*, who was a chiefe Founder thereof. *Pharamond* lastly comming to

B a the

the period of his life, left the succession to his Son *Clodion*, *Anno Domini* 430. His Character of life is drawne in these Lineaments; he made good Lawes, and conformed the *French* to the obedience of civill government; revived the *Salique* Lawes, and was the Founder of the *French* Monarchy: his Name *Warmond* or *Pharamond*, imported a true mouth, Truth being a noble vertue in a Prince. The Church was then happy in those Lights of Religion, *Jerome*, *Chrysostome*, *Ambrose*, and *Augustine*, shining through the Clouds of Oppression, wherewith those times were darkened and obscured: And the Papacy was then but weake in power, afterward growing strong by the Emperors absence, warring against the *Barbarians*, and by succouring afflicted Christians.

Cloion

Cloion, or Clodion, the second King of France, Anno 432.



Cloion, or Clodion, according to *Sidonius*, *Apollinaris*, and *Gregory of Tours*, succeeded his Father *Pharamond* in the Regall estate in the yeare 432. of our Redemption. He was surnamed the *Hairy*, because hee commanded the *French men* to weare
 B 3 long

long haire in token of Liberty, to the end they might be knowne and distinguished from *Romans*: or (as some Moderne Writers will have it) to this end, that none should weare long haire, but those of the Royall blood. In the beginning of his Reigne, perceiving the *Romans* to bee employed altogether against the *Vandals* in *Africke*, and a notable dissention betweene *Aetius* and *Boniface*, went from his Castle of *Dispargun*, and fastened upon *Cambray*, and all that Countrey which lyes betweene the Rivers of *Escant* and the *Somme*, where to this day are the Cities of *Monts*, *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, and the Forrest heretofore nominated * *Carbonaire*. Afterwards having made a great discomfiture of the *Romans*, who made head against him, hee came as farre as the Bourough of *St. Helens*, which is in the Land of *Artois*. He also subjugated those of *Thuringia*, the *Saxons*, and other populations of *Almaine*, as *Funecius* is of opinion. O

thers-

thers also adde, that the City of *Mayence* was by him taken in: The *Hunmbalt* of *Trithemius* holds, that he divided his Kingdome into two parts, nominating that upon the Coast of the *Rhine Austrasie*, and the part upon the West, *Nenstria* or *Westria*.

The Chronicles of *Flanders* say, that he led his Army against those of *Therovenne*, otherwise called *Morinians*, whom he made subjects: they perceiving their Auxiliars the *Cinabres* and *Ruthenians*, and their Captaine General *Gondmar* overthrowne, who had a Daughter whom this *Clodion* caused to be married to a Nephew of his who was called *Flandebert*, from whom they will have the Countrey of *Flanders* to derive its first Nomination, although it is more evident that it was not so called before the time of *Charlemaigne*. He deceased in the 20. yeare of his Reigne, *Anno Domini* 450, according to *Ado* and *Aymoinus*, leaving (as *Jaques Meier* and *Richard* of *Wassebourg* doe relate)

B 4

Ranchaine

Coale-
forest in
Fronce.

Ranchaine, or *Ranachaire* and *Alberic* (*alias*) *Auberon*, his sonnes. Wearing of long haire (as was said) was ordained by this King to bee the Ornament of Princes, whereby *Clodamire* slaine in Battaile, was knowne from the vulgar Souldiers, and shaving off the Haire was a Ceremony used at degrading of Kings; and Queene *Clotilde* suffered her Sonnes Heads to be cut off, rather than their Haire, preferring honour to life, and accounting the disgrace which her Children should receive by shaving, making them incapable of the Royall dignity, worse than death; for Life, after the decease of honour, is but a continuall lingring death. *Hippone* was now besieged by *Genferick*, King of the *Vandals*.

Saint *Augustine* being 76. yceres old, having scene and suffered in the miseries of the Church, then generally afflicted by the *Barbarians*, wearied with being a Spectator of those Tragedies, withdrew to Heaven, and dyed, leaving

leaving the Christian World a mourner for his departure.

Merovæus, the third King of France.
Anno Domini 450.



M*erovæus*, Maire of the Palace of *Clodion* (according to *Jaques Meier* and *Richard of Wassebourg*, the Authors afore-said, which *Merovæus* neverthelesse the Abbot of *Ursperg*

Ursperg thinkes, and other *French* Historians are of opinion to have beene a Bastard-sonne, or a neare Kinsman of *Clodion*, was by the reason of his valour and experience in Warre, chosen King of the *French*, Anno Domini 450. secluding the Sonnes of *Clodion* from the inheritance of the Kingdome. Many are of opinion that he was the first that tooke upon him to March boldly all over the Countries of the *Gauls*, because by force of Armes hee opened the way into those parts, where none of his predecessors had had any peaceable habitation or abode. And for this cause hee being acknowledged by the Ancient *French* to be the first King to have passed so farre, the *Gauls* or *Frenchmen* were called *Merovinians*. Others are of opinion that it was, for that he was the first of the Line that reigned over the *French* untill *Pepin*, it being that the sonnes of *Clodion* were supplanted, who betooke themselves for assistance to their Mother in the Kingdome of *Thuringia*:

ringia: where being growne to age, by the ayde of other Nations recovered *Almany*, *Cambresis*, *Tournay*, *Henault*, and *Couloine*, of which parts they tearmed themselves Kings, and maintained it against the *Merovinians*, untill the time of *Glovis*.

In the meane time *Attila*, King of the *Hunnes*, having spoiled a great part of *Europe*, laboured to joyne with the *Visigoths* and *French* to ruine the *Romans*, which was a cause that *Aetius* a *Roman* Gentleman, who had the command of all the *Roman* forces of the West, had this Warre in charge, who gave unto *Meroveus* the right wing of the Battaile against *Attila* who lost the field: This Battaile was fought in the *Catalaunicke* Plaine, which some esteeme to have beene that at *Chaalons* in *Champaigne*, others at *Solongne* by *Orleans*, who seeme better of opinion than those who would have it neare *Thouluse*: because it is certaine that *Attila* never penetrated so farre into the Countrey

Countrey of the *Visigoths*, where the Shock was so bloody and cruell, that there remained one hundred and fourescore thousand men slaine in the place. *Meroveus* yeelded to Fate in the tenth yeare of his Reigne, according to *Sigebert* and other Historians, *Anno Domini* 459.

This King was fortunate in his Warres, for after the Death of *Ætia*, executed by the Emperour *Valentinian*s command, being so faithfull a servant, that it was said that the Emperour had cut off his right hand with his left: by valour, potency, and opportunity hee advanced the Monarchy of *France*, growing more exact and compleate in strength, hee being the third Stone in that Royall building called *Gaule*, which new-begun Estate was raised to a greater perfection by many other Royall Builders, descended from his Race, and called *Merovingiers*, in memory of this *Merovee*, who, as *Titus Vespasian* said, *Non per-*
didi

didi diem, so hee accounted that Day lost wherein hee did no good.

This worthy King was much lamented of all men, they gave him the solemne rites at his funerall, which appertained to a King in those dayes, which was teares and sorrow for forty dayes after.

The Church was now much troubled by the *Nestorian* and *Eutichean* Heresies, which weeds were by two Councells assembled at *Ephesus* and *Chalcedon*, plucked up out of the Garden of Christendome, and the true Christian Religion was now defended by *Cyrillus* and *Theoderet*, two stout Champions for the Church, who employed their whole strength and power for the maintenance thereof, so that the remembrance of their pious and noble actions will continue in all ages to their eternall praise and commendation.

Chilperic

Chilperic or Hilperic the fourth King
of France, Anno 459.



Hilperic succeeded in the Kingdome by the favour of the memory of his Father, Anno Domini 459. notwithstanding that he seemed borne fitter to lead an Army, than governe a Kingdome in Justice and peace, by reason of his insolence and lubricity,

lubricity, for which the great and powerfull men of his Kingdome enforced him, having already reigned three yeeres, to flye into the Kingdome of *Thuringia*, there to expect the issue of his fortune. But before his departure, his friend *Vidomare*, (or as others report *Guemans*) gave him his word and promise, breaking a peece of Gold betweene them, the King keeping the one halfe, and he the other, advising the King that hee should boldly returne when he should receive the other halfe from him.

Hereupon the *French* chose in his place *Gilles* or *Gillon* Governour of *Soissons* under the *Romans*, who reigned as King 8. yeares, in the end whereof *Chilperic* was re-appealed by *Vidomare*, who had so dexterously carried himselfe, that *Gilles* himselfe wrought his owne ruine & hatred which the *French* conceived against him. *Chilperic* hereupon endeavouring the recovery of his Kingdome, gained a great battaile against

against his Enemy *Agrippina*, which the *French* surnamed *Coloyne*. But in his returne hee sought an ill requitall to so good a friend and Host the King *Basin* of *Thuringia*, because hee tooke away with him *Basins* Wife and Queene, carrying her with him into *France*, and of her begat *Clovis*. *Trithemius* the Abbot saith, that the Dutchies and Counties were erected and instituted by *Chilperic* in *France*, who distributed them to those of his blood. But it is more apparent, that the *French* comming into *Gaule*, retained onely the generall policy which the *Romans* had there planted, with the nominations of the Dutchies and Counties, which denominated no more than Provinces general: or subalterne. The *Bretons* of *Gaule Armorick* under him tooke their beginning. *Anno Domini* 460. as also the *Roman* Empire ceased in the West, *Anno Dom.* 477. *Chilperic* breathed his last in the 24. yeare of his Reigne, about the yeare 484.

The

The first part of *Chilpericks* Life and Reigne was much disgraced by his vicious government, and his owne actions, oppressing his Subjects, and for his lusts satisfaction, abusing their Wives and Daughters: but afterward, being awak'd by affliction, and touch'd with the sense of his former wrongs, he changed his course of Life, and tooke pleasure onely in goodnesse, by his conversion gaining the affection of the *French*. Thus Affliction doth instruct not destroy a minde capable of Reason; for as Winter stormes kill not the Tree, but keepe downe the wanton sappe, which ascending in the Spring, makes it more fruitfull: so by adversity and misfortune the minde is somewhat oppressed, but by vertue it is reviv'd, and brings forth fruite of new conversion, and being dead unto former vices, lives onely to goodnesse, as this King, who in the last part of his life conquer'd his desires, and triumph'd in that noble Victory.

C

Clovis

Clovis 5. King of France, and the first Christian King of that Nation. Anno 485.



His *Louis*, or *Lewis*, came to the Crowne, *Anno Dom. 425.* at the age of 15. He surmounted through his magnanimity, the glory of his predecessors: and wee must ascribe the true entry of the *French* into *Gaule* to him, according to the affirmation of *Gregory*

Of all the French Kings.

Gregory of Tours, Aymeynus, Ado, and the *Modernes*. For by the overthrow by him given to *Siagrius*, Count of *Soissons*, sonne of *Gilles the Roman*, he reduced the County to the subjection and Lawes of the *French*, and so abolished that small power and command which the *Romans* at that time had formerly, in those parts of *Gaule*, 537. yeares after it had beene subjected to the *Roman Empire* by *Julius Caesar*. After that he espoused *Clotilda*, daughter of *Chilperic*, one of the Kings of *Burgundy*, and being in the tenth yeare of his reigne, he compelled the *Thuringians* to receive and acknowledge his Lawes. Hee obtained the day at *Tolbiac* against the *Almaines*, reducing their Kingdome into a Province and Dukedome: at his returne he became a Christian in the 15. yeare of his reigne, and altered his Coate of Armes. Neare unto *Dijon* hee overthrew *Gondenbault* his wives uncle, and in the 25 yeare of his reigne, hee slew

C 2 with

with his owne hands in a battaile *Alaric* King of the *Visigoths*, who was an *Arian*, and drove them out of *Gaule*, and by that meanes hee submitted to his Kingdome the Countrey of *Ango-lesme*, *Bourdelois*, *Perigort*, *Quercy*, *Rovergue*, *Albi*, *Auvergne*, and *Tholouze*, nothing remaining unconquered of *Gaule*, but *Provence*, and a part of *Languedoc*. Afterwards being honoured with a Patriciall dignity by the Emperour *Anastasi*, he removed himselfe to *Paris*, where he established the Regall seat of his Kingdome. Others affirme, that in defiance and despite of all his greatest friends and kinsmen, who at that time commanded a great part of *France*, siezing their Estates and Lordships, prevented a disturbance of his estate like to ensue. He reigned 30. yeares, and lyes inhumed and *St. Peter*, and *St. Paul*, now called *St. Genovesue*, yeelding his last breath *Anno Domin. 513.* leaving foure Children, *Childebert*, King of *Paris*, *Clodomire* of *Orle-*
ance,

ance, *Clotharius* of *Soyssons*, *Theodoricke* a bastard, sonne of his K. of *Metts*, and two daughters; besides that sonne which was slaine in the wars. The Kingdome that was in its infancy of growth was twice mangled and dismembred.

In the time of this warre, there came a messenger, that brought the King tydings how that one of his sonnes was dead: upon the receipt of which newes he presently tooke the Crowne from off his head, and fell into a heavy and melancholly passion, insomuch, that for the time he was quite bereaved of his naturall sence; which the messenger seeing, added this to his former tale, that his sonne dyed victoriously; hearing of which words, he revived, and tooke up the Crowne, and set it againe upon his Head, and so rested satisfied. When *Richar* Duke of *Cambray*, a man of bad conditions and lewd life, was by the King taken prisoner, and put to death, being betrayed by the trea-
C 3 chery

chery of his Barons, they imagining, as *Seneca* saith, that *Prosperum ac felix scelus, virtus vocatur* : That fortunate Treachery, should be esteemed vertuous piety : and being not content with certaine richly guilt Corcelets of Copper, which the King had formerly sent them to procure the effecting of the aforesaid Treason, they complained unto him, that they were but badly recompenced. He answered, The gift of your lives is a sufficient reward for Traytors, who deserve torments rather than preferments for betraying their Lord & Master. Your lives which I suffer you to enjoy, is no small benefit and favour. For Kings, though they seeme to allow Treason, cannot love the Traytor. The Traitors thus upbraided with their wicked nesse, and condemned by their conscience, flunke away from his presence.

Childebert

Childebert, the sixth King of France.

Anno 514.



Childebert, the eldest sonne of *Clovis*, succeeded in the Kingdome of *Paris*, which was the Regall Seate of the Monarchy of *France*, Anno Domini 514. Upon his undertaking the government, he was by his Brothers instigated, and his Mo-

C 4

ther

ther *Clotilda* to the revenge of the death of his Father and Mother, who were by *Gondebault* murthered: whereupon making Warres upon the *Burgundians*, their King *Sigismund* was taken in a Battaille, and together with his Queene and Progeny was throwne into a Well at *Orleans*. After that, they retreated against *Gondemar*, brother to *Sigismund*, where *Clodomire* was slaine in the pursuite. By the meanes whereof, and the Warres following upon the whole Countrey of *France*, *Gondemar* tooke possession of *Burgundy*: Whilst *Theodorick* afterwards was against *Hermenfroy* for the estating himselfe in the Kingdome of *Thuringia*, by the ayde and assistance of his brother *Clotharius*; *Shildebert* seized upon the County of *Auvergne*, but having intelligence of the returne of his Brother *Theodorick*, whom he supposed to have beene dead, he went into *Spaine*, against *Almerick*, King of the *Visigoths*, on a quarrell for the ill usage of his Sister *Clotilda*, which
Alarick

for he was slaine by a wilde Bull, which he hunted, the manner of his death being an Embleme of his life; for in his life hee persued wilde imaginations and vaine desires, untill this sad mischance layd him to rest in a Grave, to shew the vanity of humane designs, which are so soone strooke dead, such is the glory of this World. There is no vertue in this life, except it be to love the thing that is to be beloved; and to love that, is Prudence; and not to be moved or troubled for any matter of molestation, that is Fortitude; nor for any matter of Flattery and delight, that is Temperance; nor for pride, that is Justice.

Clotharius I. the seventh King of France. Anno 559.



Clotharius, the third legitimate Sonne of King Clovis, having reigned 45. yeares at Soissons, (which is now called the Belgick Gaule) upon the decease of his Brother Childebert, who dyed without issue Males, was proclaimed the 7. King of France: which

which his Sonne *Cranne* perceiving, as being now destitute of the support of his Uncle *Childebert*, by whose assistance he managed strong Warres against this his owne Father, came and cryed him mercy. But hee made so mall use of his fathers Grace and goodnesse, that hee committed againe a new Fellony and Rebellion against him: And when his latter proceedings began to bee worse and worse in successe than before, hee fled to *Conobre*, or (as others say) *Cannabo*, Prince and Count of the *Bretons*, who entertained him, and undertooke to secure him from his Father. Whereupon his Father *Clotharius* with his Army invaded that Countrey, where they joyned Battaile, wherein the *Bretons* lost the Field, their Prince being slaine in the place, and *Cranne* taken Prisoner, whom his Father caused to be shut up in a house, and together with his Wife and children to bee all burnt to death. But *Clotharius* being the last of the Sonnes of King *Clovis*, dyed

dyed that same day twelve-month that he justly had caused his sonne *Cranne* and his to be burnt, in the 51 yeares of his being a King. *Anno Dom. 563.* leaving behind him foure sonnes, who againe divided the *French Monarchy* into the former *Tetrarchyes*; inso-much, that that of *Paris* befell to the eldest, named *Cherebert*, or *Charibert*: *Soissons* to *Chilperic*; *Orleans* with the Kingdome of *Burgundy* to *Gontran*; and *Austrasy* to *Sigebert*, with the Provinces on this side the *Rhine*: but before the partage or division aforesaid, they fell all upon *Chilperic*, in open Armes, for the surrender of their Father Treasures, which hee had already taken possession of, and by them the City of *Paris*. Whereupon it seemes that hee tooke it to heart, and ever after maliced his brothers, especially *Sigisbert*, who had beene the motive (as *Paulus Diaconus* saith) that the *Hunns* made warre against him. This King at the time of his death said, *Vnach, Anach,*
How

How great is the King of Heaven, that hath made subject unto death the greatest Kings and Princes of the world! which speech discovered, that his too much affection to the world, made the approach of death, comming to take off his upper garment of mortality, more terrible; whereas, *Mors aequo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas, regumque turres, & sceptraligonibus aequat.*

Death impartially knocks at
Poore Cottages, and the Court gate;
And equally he bringeth downe
Vnto the grave, the King and Clowne.

To satisfie Pope *Engenius*, and for feare of Excommunication, for killing *Gawler* of *Quetot* his servant, hearing divine Service in his Chappell, hee exempted the Lords of *Quetot* from homage and service due to the King, thereby to expiate his bloody offence. But although his life was very bad and vicious, and blotted with many impieties, yet in sicknes his soule recover'd some health, by a free acknowledging his sinne, saying,
That

That his onely hope and confidence was
in Gods mercy.

Cherebert 8. King of France.
Anno 564.



After the decease of *Clotharius*,
Cherebert his sonne was King
of *Paris*, Anno Dom. 564. Hee
betooke himselfe to all the kindes and
sorts

sorts of dishonest pleasures that his
fancy suggested him. *Gregory* of
Tours takes no notice of his reigne, be-
cause he governed not long: neverthe-
lesse, this mention he makes of him, that
he was excommunicated by *S. German*
Bishop of *Paris*, for that hee had repu-
diated his lawfull wife *Ingoberge* that
he might take another, his brothers
Chilperic and *Gontran*, being no waies
different in conditions. But *Sigisbert*
was an honourable and a vertuous
Prince. *Cherebert* dyed (according to
the report of *Sigebert*, and the *Chro-
nicles of France*) in the ninth yeare of
his reigne, without issue or any notable
memory worthy a King: which was a
cause of great controversie betweene
his brothers concerning the succession;
which in the end proved a warre, which
(according to *Paulus Aemilius*) was of
a long continuance: neverthelesse, al-
though *Gregory* of *Tours*, and *Aimoy-
nus* have very confusedly spoken of that
warre, without designing or remarking
D the

the time that it begunne, nor what time *Cherebert* dyed : yet *Gregory* allowes that there was a sharing of the Kingdome. According to whose Relations, *Tours*, *Poitiers*, and *Anion*, fell to *Sigisbert* ; but what parts befell to the others is not mentioned expressely but onely this, that *Chilperic* obtained a part of *Normandy* with *Rouen* : *Gontran*, *Berry*, *Perigueux*, and *Gascony*. But each of them kept his part in the City of *Paris*, and promised each to other, that after their departure thence, no one of them after that would enter into it againe, without the consent of the other two. This *Cherebert* dyed at *Blaye*, neare *Burdeaux*, *An. Dom.* 573. and was buried at *St. Romanus* of *Blaye*. *Gontran*, *Sigisbert*, and *Chilperic* were, during their lives, in contention, untill such time as their brother *Sigisbert* was slaine by two Souldiers, who were put upon that action by *Fredegunde*, the wife of *Chilperic*, who was besieged in *Tournay* by *Sigisbert*, who not long before

was

was acknowledged as King at *Paris*.

This King was enchanted with the cuppe of pleasure, whereof hee dranke deep, & thereby committed many violent acts : for *nulla capitalior pestis, quam corporis voluptas hominibus à natura data est* ; unlawfull sinfull pleasure is the cause of all plagues. And therefore *Diogenes* told *Alexander*, that hee had alwaies pleasure enough, while *Alexander* had never enough pleasure ; and therefore he did not desire the insatiate pleasures of a King, and a King could not enjoy his pleasures. But this pleasure doth bewitch all the World, especially the sensible and rationall man, onely the spirituall mind can flye a higher pitch, & account all the delights of this world, but like the golden trappings of the Ass, that is made brave to carry greater burthens.

Chilperic, the ninth King of France.
Anno 577.



Chilperick having reigned Nine yeares at *Soissons*, and seeing himselfe raised from a meane to a higher degree of his fortune, by the death of his Brother *Sigisbert*, departed from *Tournay* to *Paris*: where having beene received as lawfull King,
Anno

Of all the French Kings.

37

Anno Domini 577. dispatched his sonne *Merovæus* with an Army for the reducing of the Countries and Cities scituated upon the River *Loire*; but he instead of that service, went directly to *Rouen*, where by the advice of the Arch-bishop *Prætextatus*, he married *Brunehault*, the Widow of the foresaid *Sigisbert*. Whereupon his father was enraged, and after having dispersed the forces of the said slaine *Sigisbert*, which came and assaulted him neare *Soissons*, he shut up *Merovæus* in a Monastery at *Mans*, and afterwards sent his other sonne into *Guienne*, for the recovery of whatsoever had beene in *Sigisberts* possession: from whence he was repelled by *Patrice Mumole*, King *Gontrans* Lieutenant. In the meane time *Merovæus*, who was somewhat nettled, and had betaken himselfe to *Brunehault*, is constrained to flye into *Austrasie*; from whence being also expelled, was put to death, and *Prætextatus* confined to perpetuall Exile. After this *Chilperick* enforced

Waroch, Count of lower *Bretagne*, to acknowledge vassallage unto him, *An. Dom. 584.* On the other side, *Childebert*, who laboured to recover *Marfles* which his brother *Gontran* detained from him, made peace with his Uncle *Chilperic*, who on his behalfe, with all his forces fell upon *Guienne*, tooke *Ly-mosin*, *Perigucux*, and *Agenois*; and as he was very desirous to follow his fortune upon *Beurges*, he was stayed by the Army of *Gontran*, with whom he made peace. Not long after *Chilperic* perceiving too amorous passages of his Wife *Fredegund* with *Landry*, Mayre of his Palace, to take away the occasion of his resentment, they caused him that night to bee murthered, as hee returned from Hunting, in the Moneth of *September*, in the 23. yeare of his Reigne, leaving one sonne, named *Clotharius*, foure Moneths old. Whilst the Daughter of *Chilperic* was in her journey to be married to the second sonne of the *Visigoths*, she was stripped, ransacked, and robbed

robbed of her treasure and jewells, and sent backe againe. *An. Dom. 586.* *Helyeth* interred at *St. German de prez*.

The occasion of his murther was the discovering of *Fredegunds* affection to *Landry*, for thinking to give his Wife a morning-salutation, hee came booted into her Chamber before hee went to Hunting, and finding her kembering her haire, which lay spread over her face, drew neare without speaking, and with his riding-wand in jest touch'd the hinder part of her head; she taking the King for *Landry*, who had free access for secret visits, said; *In my judgment Landry, a good Knight should alwayes strike before, and not behind*: whereupon perceiving that it was the King, who by those words had discovered her minde, while the King was gone a Hunting, plotting the death of *Fredegund* and *Landry*, they contrived his death, and by murtherers by them hired, the King accompanied onely with his Page, was killed as he return'd from the Chace.

**Clotharius 2. the tenth King of
France. Anno 586.**



His *Clotharius*, the second of that Name, at the age of foure Moneths, *An. Dom. 586*, succeeded his Father under the tuition of his Uncle *Gontran*, who confirmed *Landry* Mayre of the Palace, and constituted him his Lieutenant Generall of the

the Kingdome, and retained *Paris* to himselfe, with all the dependances of the Kingdome of *Cherebert*, the late King.

Gontran dyed in the 33. yeare of his Reigne, *Anno Dom. 595*, having before instituted for his Heire by will *Childebert*, King of *Austrasia*, his Nephew, who lost the Battaile at *Soissons* against *Fredegund*, for the Guardianship of his Cousin *Clotharius*: As also foure yeares after, or thereabout, *Childebert* being deceased, *Brunechilde*, who had the tuition of *Theodobert* and *Theodoric* her yong sonnes, lost the battaile against her neare *Muret*. *Fredegund* in the end dying, the two Kings of *Austrasia* and *Orleans* being vexed at the Ambushments of *Clotharius*, gave him battaile neare unto *Sens* and *Estampes*, and left him no more than twelve Counties of his whole Kingdome. *Theodoric* as victorious and tryumphant enters *Paris*. After that *Theodoric* having his hands full of his other brother, and

and before that he would undertake any Warre against him, accorded with this his brother *Clotharius*, that hee would give him the Dukedome of *Denthelin*, and other parts which hee had taken from him, on condition that he would be a *Neuter* betweene them. But hee having intelligence of the death of *Theodobert*, who was slaine neare *Cologne* in the 17. yeare of his Reigne, enters immediately upon those promised Countries. *Theodoric* being very desirous that he should let goe his hold, was imppoisoned by *Brunebault*. *Clotharius* remaining now sole peaceable possessor of the whole Monarchy of *France*, put all the children of *Theodoric* to death, except *Meroveus*, who was his youngest sonne. Afterwards he punished *Brunebault* according to her deserts and demerits; and he instituted his sonne *Dagobert* King of *Austrasia*, against whom this man was much incensed for the death of his brother *Rodoald*: but hee was reconciled into favour by the Marriage

riage of *Cometrude*, Sister of his last Wife. *Clotharius* having largely revenged himselfe upon the *Saxons*, who had revolted and wounded *Dagobert*, daring that that were without the reach of his Sword, deceased the 45. yeare of his age, and of his reigne 37. *An.D.632.* leaving *Dagobert* by his first Wife, and *Aribert* by the second.

Brunebault before mention'd, having caused many murders and mischiefes, was by her owne souldiers yeelded up to *Clotayre*, and by the chiefeest persons of his Dominions, condemned to bee tyed to the tayle of a wilde Mare, and drawne through a stony rough Countrey, being thereby torne in peeces, and dying many deaths in one death; yet *St. Gregory* in certaine Letters commends her piety and wisedome, for many Temples were by her builded and endowed, while in the Temple of her soule shee sets up Altars to murder and whoredome.

Dagobert the 11. King of France.
Anno 632.



Dagobert being possessed of the Crowne Anno Dom. 632. notwithstanding the oppositions of Brunulph, Vncle and governour of Aribert, he assigned him the Countries of Aquitan and Guienne for his maintenance, whereunto he gave the stile and title

title of a Kingdome, and bounded it with the River *Loire*, and the *Pyrenian* Mountaines. After that he laboured to polish his Kingdome, administering justice to every man. In the ninth yeare of his reigne, which was the third yeare after the decease of his Father, he captivated himselfe to vices, and voluptuousnesse, in such sort, that hee grew infamous, although hee seemed much devoted to the Abby of *St. Denis*, which he caused to be built, and enriched it with the pillaging of other Churches.

In the interim, King *Aribert* deceased the seventh yeare of his reigne, leaving a sonne called *Chilperic*, who survived him but few dayes, of whose death *Dagobert* was strongly suspected. Hee immediately united the Kingdome of *Aquitan* to the Monarchy of *France*, and dismembred the Dukedome of *Almania* into divers parts, as *Munster* affirmes. Hee released the *Saxons* of a yearely Tribute

bute of five hundred Cowes, which they payed to those of *Austrasia*, upon condition that they should keepe the *Slavonians* out of the Dominions of *France*.

After this hee crowned his sonne *Sigisbert* King of *Austrasia*. But because that in the 12 yeare of his reigne, *Clovis*, or *Lewis* was borne by his wife *Nentilde*, he confirmed the kingdom of *Anstracy* upon *Sigisbert*, and designed the occidentall part of his Kingdome, called *Neustria*, together with that of *Burgundy*, to his sonne *Clovis*. At that time *Radulphe* Duke, and governour of *Thuringia*, for King *Dagobert* would needes oppose himselfe against *Ansigise* *Maire* of the Palace of *Anstracy*, and make himselfe King; but in vaine. Afterwards *Dagobert* combated victoriously the rebellious *Gascognes*, and intending as much to the *Bretons* *Indicael* did him homage for his Kingdome. Lastly, he deceased with a Flux the 19. or, as others affirme, the 29 of *Iannary*,
Anno

Anno Dom. 647. sixteene yeares after the decease of his Father. Hee lyes inhumed at *St. Denis*: with this King dyed the splendour of the Kings of *France*, and the power of the *Maires* of the *Palace* beganne to take a dangerous and pernicious roote.

The Character of this King may bee thus drawne: He was better furnished with vertue than his education promised: he strained the Kingdome by Iustice, and brought it to moderation, and obedience; the state thereof being too much slackned by his fathers lenity, and as he had tun'd the government to yeeld a vertuous harmony, he grew into the opinion of his Subjects, by his affection to Piety, which he made to shine most cleare and evident, by building and enriching many Temples, especially *St. Denis*, honour'd since by being the constant Sepulchre where the Kings of *France* lye buried. He banished also the *Iewes* out of his Territories. But these resplendant virtues

tues were darkened and disgraced by the foule sinne of Adultery, whereby he grew infamous to his Subjects and Strangers, and was so confirmed in this vice, that *Anand* Bishop of *Paris* perswading his Conversion, was therefore banished. But his reason was awaked by *Pepius* constant reprehension, to whom banishment being threatned, yet he persisted, and by a brave importunity, neglecting his owne danger, obtained of the King to bee mercifull unto himselfe, and forsake his sinne; such was the minde of this vertuous Prince to hearken to the words of a wise man which were spoken in season, that ever after he was wary both of his words & actions; leaving an example of loyalty in a servant, and of Reasons victory in a Prince.

Clovis

Clovis, (alias) Lewis 2. the 12. King of France, Anno 645.



His *Clovis* or *Lewis*, although he were the younger brother of *Sigisbert*, whom some hold to have beene borne of a Concubine, tooke the possession upon him of the Kingdomes both of *France* and *Burgundy*, under the government of his Mother

E

Nentilde,

Nentilde, and of Prince *Aega*, Mayre of the Palace, who shortly after dyed: in whose place was substituted *Ercembault*, kinsman to the late *Dagobert* by the mothers side. In the meane time *Pepin*, Mayre of the Palace of *Austrasie*, dyed, into whose office and place his sonne *Grimoald* would enter. But perceiving himselfe to be opposed by a certaine *Otho*, who formerly had had the government of *Sigebert* in his minority made a quarrell betweene him and *Leuther*, Duke of *Almaine*, who slew him. After, taking upon him the dignity of Mayre of the Palace, hee matched his Sister *Begga* to the Duke *Ansigise*, sonne of *St. Arnulph*, by whom hee had *Pepin Heristel*. *Nentilde* deceased Anno Dom. 651. as also her Favorite *Flaveate* did, who was by Nation a Frenchman, Constable of *Burgundy*, and *Wilebald* Governour of *Burgundy Trans-jurane*; by the reason whereof *Ercembault* governed solely the Kingdome, until the King came to age. Afterwards in the yeare 657,

657, *Sigebert* perswading himselfe that he should have no issue, adopted *Childebert*, sonne of *Grimoald*, Mayre of his Palace as his sonne: but after having a son borne to him, whom he named *Dagobert*, at his decease hee left him to succede under the charge of *Grimoald*, who caused the Infant *Dagobert* to be transported into *Scotland* by *Dudo*, Bishop of *Poictiers*, there to be made a Monke, and caused his owne sonne *Childebert* to be crowned King of *Austrasie*; which caused the King *Clovis*, accompanied with his Mayre *Ercembault*, to give him battaile, in which they were both taken, and carryed to *Paris*, where they dyed. By reason whereof *Clovis* instituted his second sonne *Childeric* King of *Austrasie*, and appointed *Walfroy* for Mayre of his Palace. After that there being a great famine, *Clovis* tooke all the Plate and Treasure out of the Church of *St. Denis*, and gave it to the poore, and in recompence thereof hee exempted that

Abby from the subjection of the Bishop of *Paris*. He departed this life to a better, *An. Dom. 665*, in the 21. yeare of his age, or as others, 23, and lyeth at *St. Denis*, expecting a glorious Resurrection.

This King and many other his successors, retained nothing of Sovereignty, but the name and habilements of Kings, having resign'd their Regall power to their Mayres. For after they had committed all their Authority to these Vice-kings, they themselves did never appeare in publick, but on the first day of *May*, and then in their Chariots, stuck with flowers, and drawne with 4. Oxen. No suiters were admited to the Kings presence, who in his Chamber surfettered on all kind of pleasure, while the Subjects complained onely to the Mayre, and by him had their wrongs redressed; for the whole government, which belonged unto the Kings, was now ordered by Mayres: yet this King was happy in his Consort and Queene *Bandour*,

Bandour, of whose Piety and devotion to Religion, the Abby of *Shelces*, called *St. Bandour*, and other religious buildings were lasting Monuments.

Clotharius 3. the 13. King of France.
Anno 666.



His *Clotharius* the third, the eldest sonne of *Clovis*, succeeded in the Regall power, *Anno Dom. 666*, (his brother *Ghilderic* or *Childebert*

bert and *Theodoric* being very young) *Clotharius* permitted the sway of government to his Mother *Bathilde*, and his Mayre of Palace *Ercembault*, or *Ereich*, whom some are of opinion to have beene entituled Duke of *France*, and after the death of this, hee entertained one *Ebroin* in his place, (or as the *Almaine* Chronicles say) *Eberwin*, a German borne, a man cruell, malicious, and wicked, who was preferred unto him by the *French*.

He was the first, that, abusing the imbecillity and Infancy of his Master, raised the power and authority of his owne dignity to such a heighth it never had before, slighting and misprizing the Majesty and greatnesse of Kings: in-somuch that afterwards nothing, of what importance soever, must passe without the approbation of those Mayres, all the Principality (as it were) being solely in their breasts and power, swaying yea, and limiting the expences of their Kings, as they list them-

themselves: making Warres, Peace, Aliances, Ordinances and Customes of the Kingdome at their pleasure. Some Chronicles say, that the Kings living at their ease and pleasures, shewed themselves but once a yeare in publicke upon the first day of *May* in a generall assembly, which was held every yeare for the publick affaires of the Kingdome, in a place called *The Field of Mars*, where they rode in a Chariot drawne by foure Oxen, accompanied with the chiefe of the Baronry, as well hearing the complaints of their Subjects, as giving audience to Embassadors of forraigne Princes; all which they received at the second hand from their Mayres. This *Clotharius* was surprized by a Feaver, whereof he dyed, having reigned foure yeares, without leaving any issue, *Anno Dom. 670.* *Theodoric* undertakes the government of the Kingdome, but through the turmoyles betweene him and *Ebroin* Mayre of the Palace, the subjects enforced him to a Monasticke life

life at *St. Denis*, and *Ebroin* at *Leuxcul* in the *Franche Contè*. *Clotharius* lyes at *St. Denis* in *France*. The composition of his minde was cruell, which the subjects felt in heavy taxations, by him imposed, saying that plenty and peace made them forgetfull of their duty. And of him and his successors it may be said, that they left nothing memorable, but that they left no memory.

Hee may be reckoned among those Kings that were living Pictures of Sovereignty, shewed every yeare to the people, and so put up againe into his Chamber: but if Vertue be active, and consists in doing good, how could Kings thinke that they might rule by their Deputies? You never knew that Flock of sheepe did thrive, when the Shepherd committed them to the care of an Hireling, or a Boy and a Dogge, for then the poore sheepe are torne by Bryars: so are the poore subjects by oppressions, when *Rex dormit securus*,

securus, when the King sleepes, and suffers his Mayres to governe him and his Realme. Therefore it is said, that no man is good in regard of the nobility of his Birth, but for the excellency of his Vertue: For true Nobility dependeth of Vertue, and all other things are of Fortune. But this was the defect of these times that made soveraigne power have aweake aspect, and not to looke so fine and cleare as it would have done, for this King and many others were then but like Pictures in Arras: yet for all his cruelty, they bestowed upon him those funerall Rites which appertained to Sovereignty, and inhumed him amongst the former Kings.

Childeric

Childeric 2. the 14. King of France.
Anno 670.



His Childeric, King of *Austrasy*, and brother to *Clotharius*, being called to the Crowne by the *Frenchmen*, tooke *Ulfoalde* for his Mayre, but they found themselves as much troubled with him as they had beene with *Theodoric* and *Ebroin*, whom they

they had made Monkes, and confined into Monasteries. This *Childeric*, who was a man of no great wit, and dissolute, confined (saith *Sigebert*) *Leger* Bishop of *Authun*, a man of a holy life, to the Monastery of *Luxem*: Nevertheless the *Supplement* of *Idatius* affirms that he was so gracious with him, that he was in a manner as Mayre of the Palace. He caused a Gentleman to be ignominiously whipped, who was of *Franconia*, called *Bodille*, by which fact he excited such a scandall against himselfe, and a generall hatred of most part of the Nobility of his Realme, that they all rebelled against him, after the example of *Ingolbert* (*alias*) *Wigobert*, and *Amalbert*; giving such an occasion to *Bodille*, that he sought all occasions of revenge for the notorious disgrace hee had received from him: who on a day espying him comming from Hunting, caused him to be murthered by the assistance of his *Complices*, who also shewed no more mercy to his Queene and Wife

Wife *Blitilde*, although shee were great with child; which was a cause that *Ulfualde* fled into *Austrasie*, and that the Lords of *France*, by the advice of *Leger* Bishop of *Anthun*, tooke *Leudesil*, the sonne of the late *Ercembault*, for Mayre of the Palace, who (as it seemes to *Aymoyus* and *Ado*) taking *Theoderic* out of the Monastery, estated him in the Regall Throne.

Childeric and his Wife were funebrially interred in the Church of *St. German des prez lez Paris*, *Anno Domini* 676, and seven yeares after that by the generall consent of the *Frenchmen* hee was called out of *Austrasie* to governe the Kingdome of *France*. Hee left no issue; *Sigebert* and *Paulus Æmilius* seeme to confound the History, being of opinion that *Childeric* reigned after *Clotharius* 12. yeares, and *Theoderic* 17. yeares after him: but others hold that the reigne of *Theoderic* continued 19, in the which they number the yeares of his being a Monke, *Childeric* being substituted

substituted in his place. This King was another of the same stampe with the former, by nature enclined to tyranny and cruelty, disgracing his well-begun reigne with a bad conclusion: for Kings mounted on the top of Honour, and beholding their subjects with contempt, thrust forward by flattery or ambition, doe easily become Tyrants. And as this Kings life did not shew handsome, so his death plotted and effected by *Bodille*, did instruct Kings not to dishonour or contemne their Nobility, being their right Arme. And also it shewed, that a disgracefull punishment inflicted on a Gentleman, doth touch the quicke of the soule with a deepe apprehension, for being of a freer tender nature, they scorne as much to receive an injury, as doe any, and therefore they account it Justice to revenge, though they dye in the confirmation of the act: This appeares by *Bodille*, who concealed her anger, untill like Lightning it struck the King before it was seene; for he must be

be silent, full of darke thoughts, and carry his light inward, that will vindicate an injury; and write *Mihi & vindictæ litavi*, this is a sacrifice to Revenge.

*Theodoric 2. 15. King of France.
Anno 680.*



Theodoric (alias) Thierry, the second of that name, having beene called out of the Monastery by *Ebroin*, who in the time that things were in a combustion and

and confusion through the death of *Childeric*, went and assaulted *Leudesie*, from whom hee recovered the Royall Finances. Afterwards pursuing him, he, contrary to his promise, caused him to be put to death, and causing himselfe to bee re-estated in that dignity of which formerly hee had beene deprived, persecuted all those that had any way opposed him, filling all *France* with murtherous cruelties: insomuch, that he put to death *Leger*, Bishop of *Authun*, and his brother *Guerin*. Whilst the *Austrasians* substituted *Pepin*, Heristed, *Maire* of the *Palace* of *Austrasie*, in the place of *Vlfoald*, and appoynted for his Coadjutor *Martin*, his Cousen German, sonne of *Clo-dulphe*, second Sonne of *S. Arnulph*. Whereof *Ebroin* being advertised, went to give them battaile at a place called *Locofic*, where *Pepin* was enforced to betake himselfe into *Austrasie* for safety, and *Martin* to *Laon*: From whence *Ebroin*, upon his word given him in way

way of promise, fetcht him out, and caused him to be put to death. Immediately hereupon *Hermoufroy* slew *Ebroin*, and for refuge betooke himselfe to *Pepin*. By the reason whereof, *Theodoric* took to bee *Maire* of the *Palace* one named *Waraton*, a man well advised, who having beene supplanted and undermined by his sonne *Gisle-mare*, who dyed shortly after, entered into the State, although hee kept it not long, but dying left it in the hands and power of *Bertaire*, who in such a high nature disgusted the Lords and Nobility of *France*, that they withdrew their affection from him, and there went (namely *Andram-ne* and *Reole*) to consult with *Pepin* for a Warre upon *Theodoric* the King, and *Bertaire*, who was neare *Taxieres* in *Vermandois* defeated, and the said *Bertaire* slaine by some that pursued him. Whereupon *Theodoric* made a peace with *Pepin*, and gave him the office of *Maire* of his *Palace*, as hee

he already had that of *Austrasie*. *Pepin* being desirous to compose the matters of *Austracy* in order, instituted *Norbert* as his Lievtenant in *France*, in his absence. Afterwards he made his eldest sonne *Drogon* Duke of *Campagne*: *Pepin* began to governe in *France*, Anno Domini 687.

Theodoric deceased 688. having reigned nineteene yeares, beeing a wonderfull patient King, and one that would not be moved with any small disaster that should have happened unto him, either through the Divine Power, or Humane Resistance. Hee left behinde him three Sonnes, *Clovis*, *Clotharius*, and *Childebert*.

This King being onely a picture of Sovereignty, without any active motion, *Ne vixisse inutilis olim, videatur*, left issue to shew that he had lived. Hee sate like a patient man, and beheld the Tragedies playd by the *Mayres*, as they had beene a game of
F Tables,

Tables, untill *Pepin* wonne the set and Sovereignty of *France*.

This King was of a slow disposition, not contemning, but neglecting the World ; for if he had onely slighted earthly glory, he would have violated *Curius*, who when the *Samnites* brought him great store of Treasure, as he was sitting by the fire side, hee said, *Non aurum haberi præclarum sibi videri dixit ; sedeis, qui haberent aurum, imperare* : He accounted it no glory to have store of Gold, but to governe those that had store of gold. This was a magnanimity of minde, but a dejected minde in a Prince, suffering a Subject to over-toppe him, did not expresse the Courage of a *Cæsar*, or an *Alexander*, that desir'd to bee Monarchs of the whole world.

Clovis

Clovis 3. the 16. King of France.
Anno 689.



After the decease of *Theodorick*, *Clovis*, his eldest sonne, began his Reigne in his minority, *Anno Domini 689*, having *Pepin* for Mayre of his Palace, who was surnamed *Heristel*, sonne of *Ansigise*, under whom *France*, that heretofore seemed to bee divided,

and (as it were) dismembred, seemed now to be as an entire body, as formerly it had beene, and began to recover its pristine lustre and honour, which it had in a manner lost by the precedent divisions, and intestine dissentions; which also had given an occasion to the *Aquitans* and *Gascones* to range apart under the government of one proper and peculiar Prince, whom they styled *Duke*; an occasion that *Roderic* of *Toledo* tooke to make mention of one called *Lomp* who was about that time.

Glovis reigned (according to the Contivator of *Gregory* of *Tours*, *Ado*, and *Sigebert*) onely foure yeares, although *Aimoyus*, through the default of Writers, acknowledgeth but two yeares. And it seemes that in his time the *Saxons* and *Suedes*, who upon the occasion of the precedent Warres by the succession of times, had withdrawne themselves out of the obedience to the *French*, were by
Pepin

Pepin summoned to their duty. And because they made him know that they would not performe any such thing but upon compulsion, hee passed over the *Rhine* with an Army against them, wherewith hee gave them such downe-right knocks, that he beate them into a subjection according to his desire. By the meanes whereof *France* for some space of time continued in peace, recovering by little and little its authority and renowne amongst other Nations and strangers. Wherefore *Clovis* had no leasure to enjoy a long content, because hee dyed, although young, (as it is said) leaving the succession to his brother *Childebert*, *An. Dom. 692*. The place of his death or interment is not mentioned in any Authors.

This King reigned but foure yeares, and therefore his Character may be drawne by the Embleme of the Sunne rising, with a faire and cleare aspect, but
F 3 presently

presently over-cast with thick clouds,
having this Motto, *Orior & morior.*

*As the Sunne which fairely rose,
Is hid with clouds that doe enclose
The cleare beames, while that it doth
A sorrow, weeping teares of dew : (shew
So this King rose to a Crowne,
And setting soone in death, went downe
Leaving the Spheare of Majesty :
His Motto this ; I rose to dye.*

Childebert

*Childebert 2. the 17. King of France.
Anno 692.*



After the death of *Clovis*, his brother *Childebert* succeeded him, and reigned according to all Authours, 17. or 18. yeares, except *Ado*, who alloweth him but 13. Nevertheless it seemeth that it was in his time that *Pepin* made warre upon *Ratbod*,
F 4 Duke

Duke of *Frizeland*, who was as yet a Pagan and an Idolater; so that he being overthrowne, *Pepin* would not grant him any conditions of peace, unlesse he would permit a Monke called *Wilebros*, (*alias*) *Clement*, a learned and vertuous man, might freely give instructions to the *Frizons* in the Christian Religion; which for the most part was generally approved and liked by the people: but the Nobles and chiefe men remained and continued in their ancient errour together with their Prince. Moreover, that *Pepin* was a man accomplished, and of singular parts, yet contrary to the Lawes of Marriage, he was so much taken with the fond love of a Gentlewoman called *Alpaide*, that hee utterly loathed his wife *Phetrude*. By reason whereof *Lambert*, Bishop of *Utrecht*, or (as some report) *Liege*, a man of a holy life, boldly undertooke to lay open his sinne unto him, although he had restored him to his See Episcopall, whereof *Ebroin* had deprived him. Whereupon

Alpaide

Alpaide was so much enraged, that shee instigated her brother *Dodon* to kill him: but he and his associates received a reward due for such a demerite and murder. *Pepin* on the other part hearing that *Norbert* his Lieutenant of Maireship of *France* was deceased, substituted his second sonne *Grimoald* in the place, and caused him to marry *Thendesinde*, Daughter of *Ratbod*, Duke of *Frizeland*.

About five yeares after, *Drogon*, the sonne of *Pepin*, Duke of *Champagne*, dyed, (as *Ado* noteth) *Anno Dom.* 708, but according to *Sigebert*, 699, whose estates were by *Pepin* given to his sonne *Thibault*: after that, seeing the *Swedes* to rebell against *Childebert*, under the conduct of *Villarius* he sent *Anepos* Bishop against them with a powerfull Army, which overthrew them, saith *Ado*. *Childebert* deceased *An. Dom.* 710, having reigned 17. yeares, leaving issue, *Dagobert*, *Clowis*, and *Daniel*.

That which is chiefly observable in this

this King, was his dotage on *Alpaide*, a faire & beautifull Gentlewoman, whom he loved beyond all respect of himselfe, letting his Fame bleed to death, wounded with a bad report for his incontinent life. For that King that is addicted to the love of a woman, hath all his senses so charmed, that he understands nothing but his pleasure, and is quite given over to follow his owne wicked desires. For, *Est infelicius quàm mere rice nihil.*

‡ *A Whore may well compared be
Unto a Garden of misery:
He that doth both touch and taste
Her fruite, doth unto death make haste.*

‡ And hee that endeavours to make a King see his owne vice, does alwaies perish in the attempt, & resembles *Virgil's* poore Gnat which the shepheard killed with clapping his hand against his face, while he strove to wake him. So Bishop *Lambert*, that would have wak'd the King, was by *Alpaides* plot and the Kings consent murdered.

Dagobert

Dagobert 2. the 18. King of France.
Anno 710.



DAgobert, the eldest sonne of *Childebert*, began his Reigne *Anno Dom. 710*, according to *Trithemius*, *Ado*, and *Aventine*; not as *Sigebert* would have it, 716. There is not any memorable thing by *Pepin* done in his time, found or read commendable

mendable to posterity, but onely the death of *Grimoald*, Maire of the Palace of *France*, which was *Anno Dom. 714.* in *April*, who was miserably slaine by a Souldier, a *Frizelander*, in the Church of *St. Lambert*, belonging to the See of *Liege*, whither he went to visite his father *Pepin* then lying sicke in his bed, whereof he dyed the same yeare, about the midst of *December*, having executed both the Maireships with great honour for the space of 27. yeares and a halfe, after he had surrogated *Thibault* to his sonne *Grimoald* to be Maire. He resigned the Mayery of *Austrasie* to a naturall sonne of his called *Charles*, whom he had by his Concubine *Alpaide*, already perceiving in him the signes of a great Generosity, which enabled him for such a charge, although hee were but yet very young. Which gave an occasion to *Plectrude*, the lawfull wife of *Pepin*, cunningly to surprize him, and to imprison him in the City of *Cologne*, as well for the Novercall jealousie shee had

had of him, as for having meanes also to ruine the estate of *Austrasie*, as also of *France*, being in the hands of her younger sonne *Thibault*, assuring herselfe that the managing of busineses would passe well enough under his name: But the *Frenchmen* not willing to be governed by a Woman, being grieved also that the office of the Maire should be hereditary, which formerly had beene by Election, made an insurrection against *Thibault*, whom they forced to flye into the Forrest *Cocie*. After that they chose *Ranfroy* for Mayre: The same yeare 714. *Dagobert* dyed, having reigned 5. yeares.

This King was dissuaded from the love of *Alpaide*, by *Lambert* Bishop of *Vtrecht*, whom this cruell Dame in revenge caused to be slaine by her brother *Dodon*, stricke after the acting this Murder, with a disease of wormes, the stench whereof he being not able to endure, threw himselfe headlong into the River of *Menze*. See here a punishment to

to affright the sinfull soule; a King that had before lived in a most voluptuous manner, that made a Whore the Center of all his thoughts, thinking all happinesse to be contained within that circumference, having lost his reason, and being wholly governed by a petty-coat, what a sad and fatall end did he meete withall! For pleasure comes with a faire alluring face, tempting to taste of her *Circes Cup*, but when shee turnes her backe, she hath a ragged ugly shape, which offends the sight, and brings the mind to sad repentance. This King had highly sinned, and now wormes began to be bold with him, and eate his living flesh, so that corruption did not follow after death, but contrary to nature hee rotted and corrupted while he lived, untill the worme of conscience tormented his soule; a miserable death attending a bad life.

Clotharius

*Clotharius the 4, 19 King of France.
Anno 719.*



Clotharius the fourth, sonne of *Theodoric*, who was the fifteenth King of *France*, was brother to the Kings, *Clotis* the third, and *Childebert* the second, and Uncle to *Dagobert* the second; and by the plots of *Charles Martel*, upon the deccase of *Dagobert*,
was

was made King. For, hee perceiving that the greatest part of the *French* had constituted King, a certaine *Daniel*, a man of the Royall blood, whom they had drawne out of the Monastery, and nominated him *Chilperic* the second; he, by force of Armes having valiantly fought it out in the field, and victoriously overthrowne them, (as hereafter shall be mentioned) made himselfe Master of all *France*, and from thenceforth *Charles Martel* against his will was made King: But he knowing that the *French*, that could not containe themselves without a King, and would not admit any to the Title, but those of the Royall blood, knowing also himselfe not so descended, he caused this *Clotharius* to be Crowned King, as the next of blood; not that hee thought him worth such a dignity as that of a Kingdome, but for a gaining of authority by this faire pretext, and for the transferring of the Crowne of *France* by little and little to his Children, which afterwards

wards came to passe. For under the name of *Clotharius*, *Charles Martel* did what he pleased, which so fortunately succeeded daily, that by this meanes he made a scaling-Ladder for his sonne *Pepin* to the Crowne: So, that *Clotharius* the fourth, was made but an imaginary or titular King, who did not any thing worthy of memory, because hee reigned not above two yeares or little longer: and in the time of his reigne, all *France* was in great Factions and Divisions, by the reason of so many pretendants to the Office of *Maire* of the *Palace*: also that *Charles Martel* had after him the entire government of the whole Kingdome, and command of all; insomuch, that he was called, *Prince of the French-men*, great Master and Governour of *France*: And *Clotharius* had but the bare title of King: which is a cause that *Paulus Æmilius*, and other Historians have not inserted him into the Catalogue of the Kings of *France*. The
G afore-

aforesaid Clotharius deceased about the yeare 719, and lyeth inhumed at Nancy.

This King, having not the power of a King was like a Picture of Majesty, for some years exposed to the publick view, but afterwards death drew a Curtaine between him and the world, and then he was soone forgotten, whereas vertue doth give a second life to Princes, while their name is preserved fresh in memory: For *Sola virtus expers Sepulchri.*

Vertue alone can never dye,

But liveth still in memory.

And therefore that excellent monument, better than any Marble stone cut into forme by Carvers Art, is the statue of the mind, not that of the body: for *Statue huiusmodi relinquenda, quæ virtutis sint monumenta magis, quàm stature corporis.*

That King doth need no Tombe cut out by Art,
Whose Fame doth live in every Subjects heart.

Daniel

Daniel (*alias*) Chilperic 20. King
of France. Anno 719.



Daniel, whom some affirme to have beene the Sonne of Childebert, and brother to Dagobert; and others, that he was onely of the blood Royall, was taken out of the Monastery to bee made

made King ; and his former name was changed into *Chilperic*, *Anno Domini* 715. In the beginning of his Reigne he entered into a confederacy with *Ratbode* Duke of *Frizeland*. In the meane time *Charles Martel* escaped the imprisonment of his Step-mother *Ple&trude* : and as hee made all possible meanes and waies for the recovery of his right, before that hee could effect any thing, he was by *Ratbode* defeated, neare the *Meuse*, before that *Rainfroy*, and *Chilperic* could come to charge him. Neverthelesse, *Anno Domini* 716. after, as the *Frenchmen* went with a Convoy of an infinite treasure of monyes from the parts neare *Cologne*, which *Ple&trude* had given them. *Charles Martel* set upon them with such a fury, that he enforced them to forsake it neare unto *Albis*. By the meanes whereof, taking heart for this his first fortunate enterprize, he overthrew *Rainfroy*, and *Chilperic*, *Anno Domini* 717. the

at of *March*, neare unto *Vinciante*, who came with an intent of an ample revenge, *Charles* by this victory assuring himselfe of the *French*, desirous to reduce the rest of the Kingdome of *Austracy*, entered by force into *Cologne*, and forced *Ple&trude* to surrender unto him all his Fathers Treasures. And for the greater validity of his cause, puts one forward (whom some esteeme to have beene the Uncle of the last King *Dagobert*, called *Clotharius*, or *Lotharius*) forcing him to take upon him the title and name of King : with him afterwards hee went to encounter *Chilperic*, and *Rainfroy*, who by the meanes of *Eude* Duke of *Aquitan*, or *Gascogne*, were destitute of their Forces, being by him defeated, and overthrowne in *Champagne*, insomuch, that for safety *Chilperic* retired to the said Duke with all his Treasures : *Anno Domini* 719. *Clotharius*, the titular King, departed this life, whereupon *Charles Martel*

sent to demand King *Chilperic* of *Ende*, that he might bee sent unto him : by whom he was afterwards acknowledged as a King, and entertained *Ende*, into his amity and love. *Chilperic* also a yeare after deceased, *Anno Dom.* 720. having reigned five yeares and a halfe in a troublesome and turbulent State, which was scarce settled in all the time of his Reigne : *Charles Martel*, with *Clotarius*, (or *Lotharius*, who had tooke the name and title of King) raising many perturbations in his Kingdome : But Death at length drew his dayes to a period, after his great and manifold troubles, and lyeth interred at *Noyon*.

The-

Theodoric 21. King of France.
Anno. 720.



Theodoric was by *Charles Martel* substituted to *Chilperic*, *Anno Domini* 720. and reigned only titularly, as others had done before him, for the space of eightene yeares. *Charles Martel* left *Anion* to *Rainfroy*,
G 4 upon

upon condition, that hee should resigne the office of Mayre, and after that went to terrifie and chastise the *Saxons*, who had rebelled: at which time *Ratbod* Duke of *Frizeland* dyed *A.D.* 727. He brought the *Almaines* into such a servitude to the *French*, that before that time they never performed. Afterwards, having enforced *Pleſtrude* to come to an agreement, he marched into *Aquitan*, against *Eude*, where in the way hee, by a generall Parliament, made himselfe to bee stiled Prince of the *French*. Whereupon *Eude*, more enraged than vanquished, incited the *Saracens* of *Spaine*, by the meanes of *Mugnoce*, Lord of *Lerdane* his sonne in Law their servant, whom *Charles* encountered before *Tours*, and gave them an overthrow by the assistance of the said *Eude*, who was enforced to take his part by reason of the insolencies committed by the *Saracens*, who had now come downe into his Countrey. In this expedition hee gained the fir-
name

name of *Martel*, for the Mortality he made of his enemies. After the ending of this warre, he went against the *Burgundians*, to punish them for their rebellion, and also those of *Provence*. After that, knowing the death of *Eude*, he reduced *Gnienne* and *Aquitaine* into his obedience, disinheriting *Gaiser* and *Walde* the sonnes of *Eude*; who retiring themselves into *Gothland*, and *Septimany* (alias) *Languedoc*, recovered by the assistance of the *Visigoths*, a part of *Gnienne*, in the meane time that *Martel* was in warres against *Peppin*, the sonne of *Ratbod*, whom he overthrew, and forced the *Frizons* to become Christians. After, having sent backe his Vncle *Childebrand* against the *Visigoths* and *Saracens*, who had possessed *Avignon*, himselfe went to quell *Burgundy*, now upon a revolt, and by the aide of *Luitprand*, King of the *Lombards*, he went to drive *Athin* out of *Narbon*, and out of all *Languedoc*, and *Provence*, all which he submitted to
the

the Crowne of *France*, and hee tooke away the Earledome of *Marsiles* from Count *Morice*, who had delivered *A-vignon* to the *Saracens*. *Theodorick* dyed about the yeare 740.

It was a usuall custome for great Warriors and Souldiers in those times to get some titular addition to their name; as *Alexander* was called *Ille magnus*; so *Martel* was so surnamed, *Quasi mortalis*, or *Martialis*, because he was mortal in his expeditions, & full of martiall valour; he was the first founder of the second Race of the *French Kings*, and therefore must needes be a man of great vertue, since the raisers of private families are either Saints or Divells, that get honour by vertue, or goe to hell for it, to leave it to their Posterity.

Childe-

Childeric 3. the 22. King of France.
Anno 740.



Childeric succeeded his brother *Theodorick*, *Anno Domini 740*. He was the last King of the race of the *Merovees*, *Charles Martel* deceased at *Paris*, *October the 22. An. Dom. 741*, leaving *Carloman* and *Pepin* surnamed *The short*, *Giles Arch-bishop of Rouen*, (and

(and *Griffon*, who was by another Mother) *Carloman* and *Pepin* tooke upon all their Fathers possessions, and entitled themselves Dukes and Princes of the *French*. They called *Hunaud* to accompt, who had made himselfe a proprietary Lord of *Aquitaine*. In the meane time *Griffon* fastened upon *Laon*, claiming it as his right; from whence he was fetcht out, and imprisoned at *Ardenes*. After *Carloman* having compelled the *Almans* (who had revolted) to his obedience, *An. Dom. 743*, went with his brother to combate *Odilon* (or) *Vtilon*, Duke of *Bavaria*, who was now in Rebellion, and had stolen and married their sister: whom they having compelled to alter his Title of King to Duke, they were contented he should peaceably enjoy their Sister as his wife. At their departure out of *Bavaria*, *An. Dom. 744*. they went against the *Saxons*, whom they enforced to undergoe their accustomed yoake, giving their Duke *Theodoric* as an Hostage, who upon

upon his owne word was sent backe; but the yeare following hee was againe taken in a relapse of a new revolt against the *French*. *An. Dom. 746*. *Carloman* became a Monke of Mount *Soracte* in *Tuscany*, and afterward at Mount *Cassin*. Whereupon *Pepin* reduced the whole Monarchy into his sole power. Afterwards hee pursued his brother *Griffon*, who had retired himselfe into *Saxony*, and from thence into *Bavaria*, from whence *Pepin* having fisht him, hee brought him into *France*, and gave him the Dukedome of *Angely* in *Normandy*. After this *Pepin* affecting to joyne to himselfe both the name and the Royall Authority, wrought with Pope *Zachary* by *Bouchard* Bishop of *Witsbourg*, and by *Volrade* his Domesticke Chaplaine so farre, that the States of *France* assembling at *Soyssons*, following the declaration of Pope *Zachary*, degraded *Childeric* and his wife *Gisale*, and sent them to live a Monasticke life in the Countrey of *Bavaria*, *Anno Dom. 752*.
Thus

Thus was the *Merovæan* race deprived of its honour 293. yeares after the death of *Merovæus*.

This King and his Queene were enforced to be religious, and being depos'd, were sent to a Monastery; for it was a usuall custome sometime to confine the right Heire to such houses, or when they would be rid of their Kings, they did shave their heads, and made Monks of them, wherein it may bee they did their soules good; but compelled Religion can never be sound. *Jerome* living in a wilderness beheld *Rome*, and a King in a Cave will thinke on a Crowne, and therefore it may be said,

*When a King weares the Fryers hood,
He is either very bad or good.*

Charles

*Charles Martell, Duke and Prince
of the French.*



WHEN *Charles Martell* is placed here amongst the Kings of *France*, not because in his life time hee tooke upon him the Name and Title of a King, but because indeed hee commanded all *France* (after that hee had made an escape out of the imprisonment of

of *Pleſtrude* his Mother in law) untill his death: having made himſelfe to bee created in an Aſſembly of three Eſtates of the Kingdome, Prince and Duke of the *Frenchmen*, more haughty and illuſtrious than that of Mayre of the Palace, wherewith his Predeceſſours were contented, and the Kings that reigned in his time, had onely the bare Name and Title, without any power at all, as it hath beene already mentioned; yea, and after his deceaſe his ſucceſſors qualified him as a King, as it appeares by his Tombe in the Church of *Denis* in *France*, where his Statue is crowned, and acoutred with Robes of Regality, and is written about it in Latine words, *Charolus Martellus Rex*. And juſtly hee may be ſo ſtyled, becauſe there was no King in his time, but who he pleaſed.

Pepin Heriſtel was his Father, *Anſiſe* his Grandfather, *S. Arnulph* his great Grandfather, who being a Widower was made Biſhop of *Mets*, which *S. Arnulph* was directly deſcended in the

Maſculine

Maſculine Line of *Clodion*, the ſonne of *Pharamond*, the firſt King of *France*. This *Charles* was ſo valliant and generous, that he obtained the Surname of *Martel*, for the exceeding great ſtrength of his arme, and the memorable Victory which he obtained againſt the *Saracens*, neare unto the City of *Tours*, of whom he ſlew in the place to the number of 375. Thouſand. He reduced the whole Countrey of *Languedoc*, otherwiſe called *Septimany*, to the Monarchy of *France*, which untill that time was not warranted. Hee was very zealous in the defence of the Chriſtian Religion: yea, and *Rome* it ſelfe being diſtreſſed by the ſiege of *Luitprand*, King of the *Lombards*, and brought into great extremities, Pope *Gregory* ſent by a Biſhop *Anaſtaſius* and *Sergius* a Prieſt, the Keyes of the Sepulchre of *St. Peter* to Prince *Martell*, whereby he intimated unto him, that he put himſelfe, the Church and the City of *Rome* into his protection and ſafeguard. Wherefore

H
he

he sent Embassadors to the *Lombards*, to intreate them for his sake to desist, and to permit a peace to the City of *Rome*: which tooke such effect, that from that time afterward the Popes in all distresses sought to *France* for reliefe upon all occasions, whereof they never were destitute. In the end the *Goths* being vanquished, the *Saxons* and *Frizons* subdued, *Languedoc* conquered, and *Provence* recovered, and *France* enjoying the tranquillity of a happy peace. *Charles* made a distribution of his estate to his Children, and shortly after dyed the 22. of *October*, *Anno Domini* 741, who was the first that was ever styled Prince of *France*, and lyes at *St. Denis* in *France*.

This *Charles Martell* being King of *France* in power, though not in Title, did make *Childeric* called *Daniel*, *Clotarius* the fourth, *Theodoric* the second, and *Childerick* the third, successively Kings of *France*. The Realme and Crowne of *France* being by *Childerick* the

the third offered to *Charles Martell*, who refused the Diademe, saying, That it was more glorious to reigne over kings, than to be a King, as appeareth by this Epitaph on his Monument.

*Ille Brabantinus Dux primus in orbe triumphat,
Malleus in mundo specialis Christicolarum,
Dux Dominusq; Ducum, Regum quoq; Rex fore spernit.
Non vult regnare, sed Regibus imperat ipse.*

The Duke of *Braban*, whom Fame doth renowne
For the chiefe Champion of all Christendome,
Ruled both Dukes and Kings, and did disdain
To be a King, but over Kings did reigne.

He had foure sonnes, *Caroloman* and *Giles* of modest milde spirit, *Pepin* and *Griffon* rough and ambitious: he left to *Caroloman*, *Austrasia*; to *Giles*, being more hardy, *France*; and *Giles* given to devotion, hee made Bishop of *Roan*; and *Griffon* being of a turbulent disposition, had no portion, but was enforced to depend on his brothers, whereby the ambition of many brothers reigning together was prevented.

Fame doth report that this Monarchy nor any forraigne State did ever yeeld a worthier man, or any one so well accomplished with so rare and goodly qualities, being greatly admired and generally beloved for his pious and renowned actions. For Religion, Wisdome, Justice, Valour, modesty in prosperity, resolution in adversity, temperance in Authority, diligence, and good fortune, made him a most compleate Prince, not wanting any endowments fit for so high a calling; and the example of vertuous perfection, for Vertue is the highest perfection of Nature, beyond which humane frailty cannot reach.

Pepin

Pepin the short, the 23. King of France, Anno 752.



P*epin the short, sonne of Charles Martell, was crowned King of France in the beginning of the yeare 752, by Boniface Bishop of Magence. The Saxons rebelled the yeare following, but Pepin made them very feelingly sensible of their default. An.*

H 3

Domq

Dom. 754. *Pepin* having beene againe annointed and crowned in the Church of *St. Denis* by Pope *Stephen*, successour to *Zachary*, who came to demand ayde of him against *Astulph* King of the *Lombards*, passed over the *Alpes*, and two severall times put the King *Astulph* into such streights and extremities, that he was constrained to surrender to the Pope duties belonging to *St. Peter*, the *Segniory* of *Ravenna*, and all that hee could claime in *Romania*: whereupon the Emperour of *Constantinople*, to whom those Territories did belong, being much discontented, *An. Dom.* 759 overthrew the rebellious *Saxons*, and compelled them to pay tribute at every generall Parliament of *France* 300. Horse fit for service of Warre. From thence hee went against *Waifer*, Duke and Governour of *Aquitaine*, and enforced him to come to a composition, which neverthelesse had no effectuall issue, untill hee had defeated him in divers battailes, and taken the greatest part

part of his principall Cities. Which *Waifer* perceiving, and the taking of his Mother, Sisters, and Nieces, was enforced to commit the rest of his fortunes to the hazard of a Battaile neare *Perigord*, where, with the day he lost his life also, and his Principality likewise.

Moreover *Aquitaine* received a governour (who in those times was styled Duke) from the appointment of the King, and was reunited to the Crowne of *France*. *Pepin* retreating with his Army, was arrested with a fit of sickness at the suite of Death, whereby he paid Nature what he was indebted, the 24. of September, in the 54. yeare of his age, *Anno Domini* 768, leaving by his Queene *Berthe*, *Charles*, and *Charlemaine*, to whom by a partage they made betweene them, the Occidentall part of *France*, together with *Burgundy*, and *Aquitaine* befell to *Charles*, who established his Seate at *Noyon*: and to *Charlemaine* the Orientall, where-
H 4 under

under the Provinces on this side the *Rhine* were comprised, and held his Court at *Soyssons*.

This King was the first of the second Race, under whose vertuous government the happinesse of *France* was much improved, and in his sonnes Reigne; but Vertue being no inheritance descending to posterity, the glory of the Kingdome by the vices of succeeding Kings declined, shewing that Grace and Goodnesse are the absolute free gifts of God. That which assured him of his Subjects love, and made him become gracious in their estimation, was his honourable Actions, followed by the love and obedience of his Subjects, for the attractive love of Vertue firmly obliges subjects to their Prince, and doth by a secret violence draw their affections. His last act concluded in a Royall death, being happy in his honours and hopefull Children, one of his sonnes being afterward acknowledged the worthiest and most excellent

cellent Prince that ever reigned: And himselfe by his vertue and valour gaining his subjects love, instructed Princes that the subjects love is the strongest guard, and that Vertue is the best preserver of Majesty, giving a good and prosperous successe unto all their actions by whom she is embraced and daily followed, never leaving them hopelesse in any danger which may seeme to threaten them, but rather encourage and comfort their troubled spirits with assurance of overcoming and withstanding whatsoever may prove obnoxious or hurtfull unto them, and lastly, it doth not onely enrich a man with all temporall blessings here in this life, but hereafter advance him to immortal honour.

Charles.

Charlemayne, *Emperour of Rome,*
and the 24. King of France.
Anno 768.



NO sooner had *Charles* made a partage with his Brother *Charlemayne*, but he was enforced to restraine *Lupus* Duke of *Gascoigne*, and *Hunaut* of *Aquitaine* with including them in a Fort called *Fressac*, built neare

neare to *Libourne*. After that, marrying with the daughter or sister of *Didier*, King of the *Lombards*, he entertained *Trafilon* Duke of *Bavaria*, into his amity. The yeare following *Charlemayne* deceased, leaving two sonnes, whom *Charles* permitted not to govern in their fathers estate, but annexed it to his owne. After that hee made warre upon the *Saxons*, and in the yeare 773. at the request of Pope *Adrian*, hee tooke *Didier* in *Pavia*, whom hee confined in banishment to *Liege*, recovering all the possessions he had in *Italy*. And the same yeare he returned against the *Saxons*, where hee founded a Fort by the name of *Frankfort*. Againe, being gone into *Italy* against *Adelgise*, sonne of *Didier*, who was revolted, hee returned immediately against the *Saxons*, whom he forced to imbrace Christianity. *Anno Domini* 776. The same yeare hee tooke from the *Sarazens* in *Spaine*, *Pampelonne*, *Saragosa*, and made many Kings

Kings tributaries: in his returne from thence the *Gascones* slew most of the best men of *France*. Hee subdued the *Bretons* of the lower *Brittagne*, who had revolted: and *Anno Domini* 787. He tooke the fidelity of *Adagise*, Duke of *Benevent*, and of *Trafilon*, Duke of *Bavaria*, whereupon he confiscated to his owne use, the whole Countrey of *Bavaria*, and enforced *Theodon*, and his sonne to a Monasticke life. Hee overthrew likewise the *Sclavonians*, and the *Vandals*, who held the Countrey of *Brandebourg*, *Malgebourg*, and *Pomerania*, and also the *Huns*, and *Avarois*, who at that time possessed *Pannonia*. Hee was saluted Emperor *Anno Domini* 801. upon Chistmas day. And having received presents from the King of *Persia*, hee was sought in marriage by the Empresse of *Irene*. After that, having combated the *Venetians* by his sonne *Pepin*, and defeated the *Normans*; and having founded the *Universties* of *Paris*,
Bologne,

Bologne and *Pavia*; an intending to unite the Channell of the *Rhine* with that of *Danubius*, he was intercepted by Death, *Anno Domini* 814 beeing threescore and twelve yeares of Age, having reigned over the *French* sixe and forty yeares, and of *Italy* three and forty, and of his Empire foureteene, and lyes inhumed in *Aix la Chapelle*.

This *Charles* got some addition to his name, as *Alexander* the Great, being indeed great in the gifts of body and minde, Arts, and Armes. The ground-worke whereon he raised noble Trophies to Fame, was Religion, to which he give due honour, and from thence deriving Morall perfections, he grew an admired Prince, naturally favouring the *Muses*, learned in the Greeke and Latin languages. Philosophy, the Mathematicks, and other Sciences, hee cal'd his pastimes and companions of his sword. Something he wrot in Poetry for recreation, but
 hee

he especially delighted in History, the Register of noble Actions.

The Acts of *Charlemaine* in the Life of his Brother *Caroloman*, were many, and most renowned, and also when he was King alone, but when he was entailed Emperour, he crowned all those actions by his care of the Church, and his godly preparing for Death: for hee was much enclined to to the reading of such Bookes as were for the bettering of his understanding, and which tended to the leading of a vertuous and godly life; as may appeare by his spending three yeares in reading the Bible and St. *Augustines* Bookes before he dyed. And the Character of his Life was: That his vertue was the patterne of Princes, and his good fortune the subject of their wishes.

Lewis

*Lewis the Debonaire, Emperor of Rome,
and 25. King of France.
Anno 814.*



Lewis, who was left the sole son of *Charlemagne*, was consecrated at *Rheimes* by Pope *Stephen*, Anno Domini 814. In the beginning of his Empire, he reduced the *Slavonians*, *Sorabes* and *Gascoignes* under his obe-

obedience who had revolted upon the death of *Charlemaine* : He held a Parliament at *Aix*, where he caused his eldest sonne Prince *Lotharius*, to bee crowned Emperour with him, and caused his other sonnes to bee Crowned Kings, giving unto *Pepin* the Kingdome of *Aquitaine*, and to *Lewis* the Dutchy of *Bavaria*. By reason whereof, his Nephew *Bernard* rebelled against him, who by a sentence of the Emperours Counsaile had his eyes pulled out, whereupon he dyed with griefe. From thence *Lewis* went against the *Bretons*, who had made an insurrection, and chased *Lindente*, Governour of *Austria*, out of *Pannonia*. And having *Anno Domini* 824 renewed his alliance with *Michael* the Emperour of *Constantinople*; and his wife *Hermingarde* being dead, he married with *Judith*, daughter of the Count *Artolf*, which *Indith*, because she advanced hers to the disadvantage of the Emperours Children, was a cause that they raised
an

an army against their Father; who having confined her into a Monastery of *Italy*, she was put into a Coffer at *St. Medards* of *Soissons*, from whence she was conveyed out by the French Princes. *Lotharius* seeing this, fled into *Italy*: The troubles of *France* being appeased, the *Danes* and *Normans* ransacked the Countrey of *Zeland*, and *Frizland*, and also the *Bretons* rebelled. Also the *Saracens* much perplexed the Emperor in the chasing them out of *Italy* and *Provence*, who finding himselfe neare his end, bequeathed unto his son *Charles* the Occidentall part of *France*, and by the death of *Pepin*, *A.D.* 838. *Aquitaine* was added, & to *Lotharius* he left the Empire, with the rest of the Kingdome of *France*; & to *Lewis* the kingdom of *Bavaria*. *Lewis* being discontented at this partage, would needes take *Almaine* into his power: but having beene hindered two severall times by the Emperours Army, in the end the Emperour dyed in an Isle of the *Rhine* the sixtieth yeare of his age,
I and

and the 27. of his Empire and reigne.
Anno Domini 840.

This *Lewis* was of a milde and gentle disposition, fitter to be a Church-man, than a King; wherby he grew contemptible to his Subjects; yet milde natures much provoked are violent in revenge; for having taken *Bernard*, he imprisoned him, then put out his eyes, and all the Bishops & noblemen his adherents: Hee indiscreetly gave his sonnes their portions, and thereby procured his own affliction, arming them with strength to rebell against their Father; and for affection to Church-men he was by them censured for his cruelty to the Bishops, to be confined to a Monastery, while the Clergy adhered to the rebellious Children against the father; whose late attempt was to chastise the insolency of of his sonne *Lewis*; but age and griefe concluded his happinesse, and the good old King having felt enough vexation in the unnaturall rebellion of his Children, forsooke the world, and so found rest and happines.

Charles

*Charles the Bald Emperor, and the 26.
King of France, Anno 840.*



His *Charles the Bald* having attained to the Kingdome, *Anno Dom. 843*, made great Warres against *Lotharius*, untill hee gave him battaile at *Fontenay*: During these debates the *Bretons* revolted, and the *Normans* came even unto *Paris* to sacke the

the Abby of *St. German*, insomuch that *Charles* was enforced by money to hire them to a retreat. After this, *Charles* went against *Neomenius* King of *Bretagne*, whom he routed and defeated twice afterwards. *Anno Dom. 851.* after, *Aquitaine* fell into the hands of *Charles*, who encloystered his Nephews *Pepin* and *Charles*. Hee againe overthrew the *Bretons*; the *Normans* on the other side tooke the City of *Nantes*, confounding all with blood and fire, not sparing the Bishop who was then at *Masse*.

Fifteene yeares after the battaile at *Fontnay*, *Charles the Bald* made himselfe to be annointed King in the City of *Limoges*. *Lotharius* became a Monke, leaving the government to his son *Lewis*; but that part of *Gaule* beyond the mountaines, was divided betweene *Charles* and *Lotharius* his other sonnes. *Baldwin* having espoused the daughter of *Charles the Bald* without his consent, in the end was acknowledged as Sonne
in

in law, to whom *Charles* gave the County of *Flanders*, and lost *Aquitaine*, whereupon *Lewis* caused himselfe to be Crowned King of *Germany* in the City of *Sens*, while *Charles* was entertained in Warres against the *Normans*: which he recovered *Anno Domini 859*, forcing his brother to retreat into *Germany*. *Anno Dom. 863.* they entered into a League. In the meane time there grew great troubles amongst the Nobility of *France*, by the meanes whereof the *Bretons* came as farre as *Poitiers*, whence they were chased by *Charles*, and *An. Dom. 863.* they were constrained to take their Kingdome and Dutchy by faith of homage to him. And *Anno Dom. 869.* hee was elected King of *Lorraine* by the death of his Nephew *Lotharius*. He was also crowned Emperor *Anno Dom. 875.* by the death of his Nephew *Lewis*, which hee enjoyed not above two yeares; in the end whereof being desirous to returne out of *Italy* into *France*, he was poisoned by his Phy-
sician,

sirian, the sixth of October, Anno Dom. 877.

The Reigne of this Prince was confus'd, and unhappy, and of small fame, being a King of no merit, for from the confusion in his reigne the fall of this Race did spring : But as *Timanthes*, when he drew *Iphigenia* ready to be sacrific'd, painted *Calchas* with a sad countenance, *Ulysses* sadder, and having spent all his Art in expressing *Menelaus* griefe, and not knowing how to make the Fathers countenance more sorrowfull, cover'd his head with a vaile, leaving his passion to be conceived by imagination : so this Kings Picture deserves to bee hidden and obscured with the vaile of silence : for it is better not to write at all, than to write, though justly, disgracefully of deceased Princes.

Lewis

Lewis 3. Emperour, and 27. King of France, Anno 877.



After the decease of *Charles* the Bald, *Lewis* surnamed the Stut, was heire and successor of his Father, declared himselfe not onely King of France Anno Dom. 877, causing himselfe to be crowned in a full assembly of Princes and Prelates at *Rheimes*, but also

also Emperour of *Rome*. *Aymoyus* testified that hee was in some difference before his Coronation with the *Primates* of his Kingdome, because he had distributed the estates and dignities of *France* without their advice: Insomuch that he was enforced to give them content. In the meane time Pope *John* the 8. conceiving a better hope of the *French*, than of the *Almaines*, laboured what he could to reduce *Italy* into the good liking of *Lewis* the *Stut*, by the reason whereof he became an enemy of those that tooke part with *Caroloman*, Nephew to the said *Lewis*, and eldest sonne of *Lewis*, King of *Bavaria*, who tooke the Pope prisoner, whence hee made an escape by the meanes of his adherents, and retired himselfe into *France* with the Treasures of the Church, after that he had excommunicated his adversaries, who nevertheless desisted not to detain the City of *Rome* for the party of *Caroloman*. In the meane time the Pope was conducted from

from *Arles* by Duke *Boson* to *Lions*; from whence he went to visite the King at *Troyes*, and there the King caused himselfe by him to be crowned with the Imperiall Diadem.

After that the Pope was reconducted by *Boson* into *Italy*, whiles the Emperour *Lewis* went to visite *Lewis* King of *Germany* in *Lorraine*, where they concluded a treaty of peace, for the which the controversie touching the Empire was deferred till another time, and it was agreed that the possession should rest as it did of that which each of them had in *Italy*, untill such time that it was otherwise agreed upon. Afterwards as the Emperour was in his journey with his forces to goe visite *Bernard* Marques of *Gothland*, or of *Languedock*, which had given an occasion to the Emperour to distrust his fidelity, hee was surpris'd at *Troyes* with a malady, which moved him upon hope of recovery to returne to *Compaigne*, where he deceased the tenth of *April*, *An. Dom.*

879, leaving his Wife great with child, who shortly after was delivered of a son who was called *Charles*, afterwards surnamed the *Simple*, whose life is set downe as the occasion falls convenient; wherein you shall read Notes worthy your observation: In whose minority three things are observable, the efficacy of the Law of State, preserving the unborne lawfull Heires right: The minority of a King, subject to many miseries: And the liberty of great men in the weaknesse of a young Prince. For *Lewis* and *Caroloman* being first chosen Regents, after procured themselves under colour of the pupiles interest, to be crowned Kings.

Lewis

Lewis and *Caroloman*, or *Carlon*, the
28. King of France, An. 879.



THis *Lewis* and *Carlon* or *Caroloman*, sonnes of *Lewis* the Stut, and of *Ausgarde* whom hee had taken to wife without the knowledge of his father, and after by his command divorced her, according to the *Almaine* Chronicles, were crowned Kings of France,

France, *An. Dom. 879.* according to the appointment of *Lewis* the *Stut* at his death to the Peeres of his Realme. Upon which occasion some Abbots and great Lords partializing against them, appealed *Lewis* King of *Almany*, to take charge of the affaires of *France* into his hands. To which purpose being arrived at *Verdun*, he was pacified with the part of the Kingdome of *Lorraine*, which was given him, upon which he and his late Father had quarrelled with the Kings of *France*. This fire being thus quenched, another controversie grew concerning the County of *Authun*, betweene the Counts *Theodoric*, to whom it was given by the late deceased Emperour, and *Boson*, who layd a claime thereunto, to whom it was adjudged by *Hugh* the Abbot, upon condition that he should leave the Abbies with their revenues which were in those parts, to *Theodoric*.

The State of *France* being thus troubled, *Boson* grew more turbulent, causing

sing himsele to be crowned King of *Burgundy*, as also did the *Normans*, whom the Kings overthrew upon Saint Andrews day, *Anno Dom. 879*, slaying 5000. of them in the field. After in the yeare 880, they made a partage of the Kingdome of *France*, by which all the *Neustrick* *France* befell to *Lewis*, and *Aquitain* with *Burgundy* with the Marches to *Caroloman*. This being done, they went to surprise the *Normans*, whom they cut in peeces in the *Carbonary Forest*, to the number of 9000, the yeare after he deceased. The *Normans* not desisting from wasting and sacking the Countrey of *France*, came up as farre as *Paris*. *Carloman* was enforced to buy a peace of them for 12. yeares, which he enjoyed not long, for in the yeare 884. he was slaine by a wild Boare a hunting, having reigned five or sixe yeares; or running after a Gentlewoman, his horse carried him away, and crush'd him under a gate, or at the Chace hee fell downe and broke his necke, for report differing in

in the manner of his death, agrees that it was violent and accidentall.

Lewis the Lubber, and Charles the Grosse, the 29. K. of France, An. 885.



His *Lewis* surnamed the *Lubber*, or *Doe-little*, sonne of *Carloman*, succeeded in the Kingdome *An. Dom. 885*, at the pursuite of *Hugh* the Abbot, (who was so named, because as it

it is thought, he was the first of the *Lay-Princes* that usurped the revenues of the *Abbies*) so that all that part on this side *Seine*, and that which was called *Neustry*, remained in the obedience of *Lewis the Doe-little*; and the parts beyond the *Seine* with *Burgundy*, were under *Charles the grosse*, Emperour; who came to take the protection of *France* against the *Normans*, according as *Fulco*, Arch-Bishop of *Rheimes*, testifieth. Therefore it is that they are placed in the *Ranke* and *Catalogue* of the *Kings*. In those times the *Normans* ranged about *Neustry*, sacking and spoyling the greatest part of *Cities* in those parts, namely, *Rouen*, *Eureux*, and *Bayeux*: but they were so soundly curried by the valour of *Hugh* the Abbot, that in a long time after they durst not set a foote there, which was a cause that the same yeare 887. they returned to thunder upon the other parts of *France*, not sparing the Emperours Countrey, where they surprised the *Castle* of *Lovanne*.

From

From thence they came before *Paris* under the conduct of their King *Sigefroy*, hoping there also to make a prey as they had done elsewhere; but it was so bravely defended by Count *Endes* & the Abbot *Goslin*, that they were quite frustrate of their expectation and pretence. This *Lewis* dyed immediately after, having borne the name of a King to his dying day, for the space of two yeares, according to the Chronicle of *St. Benigne*. Moreover, *Charles* became so stupefied in his senses and understanding, that when the Princes of the Empire knew that there was no hope of his recovery, and that the affaires of the Empire might fall into some disasters, they gave him into the charge of his Nephew *Arnulph*, naturall sonne of the late *Caroloman*, in whose custody he dyed soone after, on the 12. of *January*, Anno Dom. 888.

This King was approved in the beginning of his Reigne, and revered by his Subjects, but afterwards having made

made a dishonourable peace with the *Normans*, yeelding them *Neustria*, now called *Normandy*, hee lost his Subjects affection, and then through grieve and jealousie conceived against his Queene *Richarda*, fell sicke, and through the distemper of his body and minde being unfit to governe, was deposed, rejected both from the Realme and Empire, banished from the Court, and having neither house nor meanes, was starved, and dyed for want of reliefe in a poore Village of *Suevia*. Thus one of the great Monarchs of the world dyed without house, without bread, without honour, without mourning, & without memory, but that his end was prodigiously memorable. The reasons were his imperious pride in prosperity, and his despairing dejectednesse in adversity, foolish extreames becomming not a magnanimous mind; therefore his affliction was hated of his subjects, not considering the true cause of his affliction. But the chiefe cause was his distrust

in God in his extremities, for he should have acknowledged that Δίς ἐτελείετο βελή, as *David* said,

*O Lord, although I am throwne downe,
I have held my peace, thou hast it done.*

*Endes or Odo, the 20. King of France.
Anno 891.*



Endes or Odo, sonne of *Robert* Count of *Paris*, and of *France*, Tutor to the young *Charles*, tooke

tooke the government of the affaires under the Title of King, and by the consent of *Arnulph* and the Lords of *France*: Hee was consecrated and anointed King, and crowned by *Walter* Arch-bishop of *Sens*, who was a cause that *Baldwin*, Count of *Flanders*, and *Fulco* Arch-bishop of *Rheimes*, sent *Guy*, Duke of *Spoleto* into *Italy*, to take the affaires of *France* into his hands. *Odo* being established, gave the County of *Paris* and of *France* to Count *Robert* his brother, and instituted *Richard*, Count of *Anthun*, governour of the lower *Burgundy*, for the defence thereof against the *Normans*; who having beene *Anno Domini* 888. repulsed from before *Paris* by Count *Robert*, came before *Sens*: from whence they were beaten by the said *Richard* Duke of *Burgundy*, who was the first that left that dignity hereditary and patrimoniall to his successors. *Walter*, Nephew to *Endes*, making an insurrection against him, betooke himselfe into *Lyons*, whence fetcht out,

he was put to death. At the same time *Ebulo*, Abbot of *St. Germans*, and Count *Ranulph*, together with his brother *Gotsbert*, arose against *Eudes* in *Aquitaine*, whom he made to goe against them. In the meane time the greatest part of the Lords of *Neustria* were in pursuite of *Fulco*, Arch-bishop of *Rheimes*, and of the Counts *Heribert* and *Pepin* the young, *Charles the Simple*, whom they caused to be crowned King in the City of *Rheimes*. Whereupon *Eudes* and he grew to great Warres, so that *Charles the Simple* would have entered into a confederacy of a Fleete of *Normans* under the conduct of *Hastings* for the recovery of his Kingdome, but he was prevented by *Fulco*, the Arch-bishop of *Rheimes*, because they were as yet Pagans. *Fulco* made peace betweene *Eudes* and *Charles the Simple*, Anno Domini 897, and by this reconciliation a part of the Kingdome was given to *Charles*, and the other permitted to *Eudes*, who enjoyed it not long after,

after, because he deceased without issue, the 13. of *January*, Anno 898, and at his death hee declared that of right the Crowne after him ought to returne to *Charles the Simple*, to whom it of equity and right appertained.

From the Race of this *Eudes* sprung *Hugh Capet*, for *Widechind* of *Saxony* favour'd by *Charlemagne*, sent his son *Robert* or *Rupert* into *France*, who had two sonnes, *Eudes* and *Robert*, Father to *Hugh the great*, Father to *Hugh Capet*, afterward King of *France*. Fame drew this Character of *Eudes*, that hee was a good wise man, yet he could not please the *French* by his Regency, for the excesse of his vertue curbing the desire of such as sought to raise their fortunes by usurping power over the State and the Kings weaknesse supported by *Eudes*, drew envy on his actions seeking the good of the Common-wealth, which hee neglected, but with approved resolution not abated by private malice, went forward with the govern-

ment of the Realme, and at last resignes all his Authority to the King, who like *Phaethon*, unfit to rule the Chariot of the Sunne, by his bad government met those misfortunes, which *Endes* kept off while hee lived; for Wisdome and Discretion is *Scutum invincibile*, an invincible Buckler, folly, envy, policy, treachery, slander, adversity, necessity, power and injustice, and all the Devills invisible Artillery cannot pierce nor wound him that is therewith arm'd.

Charles

Charles the Simple, the 31. King of France, Anno 898.



Charles surnamed *the Simple*, was estated in his Fathers Throne, *Anno Dom. 898*, and by the reason of his imbecillity every one encroched upon him; by making whatsoever possessions they held, as hereditary to their posterity, what belonged of right

K 4

right to the Crowne : in so much that great dignities, Dutchies, Earledomes, and government of Provinces, which formerly were held but for terme of life in a titulary way, were now made hereditary. *Anno Domini* 912. he made a peace with *Rollon*, upon condition that the Countrey of *Neustrie*, bounded by the River *Epte* on the one side, and by the Ocean on the other, should remaine to *Rollon* in Title of a Dutchy, to hold it in homage of the Crowne of *France*, conditionally also, that he and his whole Countrey should bee baptized in the Christian Faith. By reason whereof he was baptized *Robert*, after the name of his Kinsman Count *Robert*, from thence *Normandy* had its denomination. In those times also there were great troubles in *France*, which were raised by *Robert* brother to the former *Odo*, who had caused himselfe to bee crowned King by *Herivee*, Arch-bishop of *Rheimes*, whilst *Charles* was in *Lorraine*; for the recovery whereof *Charles* led an Army

Army of *Lorainers* against *Robert*, whom he tooke at unawares neare to *Soyssons*. Notwithstanding this *Robert* resisted him valiantly, but with the losse of his life : The battaile neverthelesse was lost by *Charles*, who fled into *Lorraine*. Whereupon the Allies of *Robert* called in Duke *Rodulph* of *Burgundy*, whom they caused to be crowned King at *Soyssons* for want of *Hugh le Blanc*, sonne of the late *Robert*, who by reason of his youth durst not pretend the Crowne.

After this *Charles* staid not long to be entrapped in the snares of *Hebert* the Count, who sent by his Cousin *Bernard*, Count of *Senlis* to take him : so that he was detained prisoner in the City of *St. Quintin*, and afterwards was sent to the Castle of *Thyerry* upon the *Marne*, and from thence to *Peronne*, where he ended his life five yeares after his imprisonment, leaving *Lewis* in the power of his Mother *Theargine*, who for his safety conveyed him into England.

England. This King having resign'd his Crowne to *Raoul* his God-sonne, the first Prince of the blood by his Mother *Hermingrade*, Daughter to *Lewis*, and wife of *Boson*, King of *Burgundy*, dyed with griefe, and of a languishing Melancholy, to see that his treacherous vassage should so affront and oppose him, and use him in such a disgracefull manner. For there is no greater misery or vexation, than when the Master through want and poverty is abused by the man, it doth even astonish the minde, and pierce the Heart unto death; for *Asperius nihil est humili cum surgit in altum.*

Rodulph,

Rodulph, or *Raoul* of *Burgundy*, the 32. King of France, Anno 923.



Rodulph having beene crowned King at *Soissons* the 13. of June, Anno Dom. 923, reigned 13. yeares; hee went afterwards to warre with *Hugh le Blanc* against the *Normans*, others against those of the Faction of *Rollon*, and also those that inhabited upon

upon the River *Loire*: from whence he was recalled to receive the oath of the *Lorainers*, excepting that of Duke *Gislebert* and *Rotharius*, Arch-bishop of *Trenes*. Afterwards having espoused *Berthe*, the Daughter of the Duke of *Swede*, and because having a hope to attaine the Empire, he passed into *Italy*, where hee overthrew *Berengarius*, and drove him out of *Italy*: and at his returne having made peace with the *Normans*, hee went against *William* Duke of *Aquitaine*, whom hee enforced to acknowledge his estate to have dependance from the Crowne. And upon the parting of Estates of the Kingdome, which was held at *Attigny*, hee had gone into *Lorraine*, had hee not beene hindered by a fit of sicknesse, which retained him at *Rheimes*. After that he went against the *Normans*, but through the rebellion of the *Lorainers*, who had surrendred the upper *Lorraine* into the power of the Emperour *Henry*, he was enforced to make peace with the
Normans,

Normans, which continued not long, because having recommenced their wonted courses, he was constrained to purchase his peace with a great summe of monies, that hee might goe against the Duke of *Aquitaine*, who was now in rebellion, from whom hee tooke *Nevers*. The bruit of the *Hungarians* comming into *France*, gave him to understand of the revolt of Count *Heribert*, who accompanying himselfe with *Hugh le Blanc*, went to take an Alliance with *Henry* the Emperour in *Lorraine*, and in his returne released King *Charles* out of prison, who went to meete *William* Duke of *Normandy*, to enter a League against *Rodulph*. This beginning of Warres being pacified betweene them, *Heribert* caused *Charles* againe to be imprisoned, who dyed shortly after at *Peronne*.

In those times there were great contentions amongst the *Paires* of *France* concerning the Provinces, which proceeded from the politick flights of the
 Emperor

Emperour, who sought to hold the partialities of *France* in an equality, for feare lest the tranquillity of *France* might not produce a trouble to his estate in *Lorraine*. *Rodulph* deceased the twelfth or fifteenth day of *January*, Anno Domini 939.

This *Roul* was an usurper, and his reigne was troublesome and unfortunate, and for hee and others, that had beene servants to the Crowne, being now Kings and Dukes, thought to make their Dominions proper to themselves, and not depending on the Crowne, which bred much confusion in *France*, *Italy*, and *Germany*. The Church did now strive to advance the Authority of the Pope of *Rome*, gaining a great opinion among Christians in the Empires declining estate, and growing so great a Monarch, that he assumed primacy above Kings and Emperours, which they and their subjects refused to acknowledge.

¶ In these times a young Maide attired like

like a Boy, went with a learned man to *Athens*, and returned from thence so good a Scholler, being well read in many Authors of exquisite learning and profound knowledge, and so expert likewise in the holy Scriptures, that after the death of Pope *Leo*, shee was created Pope *John* the eight; but afterward being with childe by one of her Groomes, she was as shee went in solemne procession, (according to the custome and order observ'd amongst them) delivered of a childe in the open streete: Thus the Empire, the Realme, and the Church were in those times much distemper'd and disgraced, pride and ignorance breeding many miseries and reproachfull accidents.

Lewis

Lewis 4. the 33. King of France.
Anno 939.



Lewis, son of Charles the Simple, was recalled out of England by the Princes of France, and at the instance of Hugh le Blanc was crowned at Laon by the Arch-bishop of Rheims, the 19. of July, An. Dom. 939. From thence hee went to recover the City

City of *Langres* from Hugh le Noires brother to King *Rodulph*, and having entertained the Lords of *Burgundy* before he came to *Paris*, hee discarded Hugh le Blanc, and for his owne Mother; that he might make use of her counsell: which caused Hugh to allye himselfe to the Emperour *Otho*, by taking his sister in marriage, and to reconcile *Heribert*. Afterwards they went to follow the King even into *Burgundy*, who in revenge fell upon *Lorraine*, which caused the Emperour to depart out of *Almaine* to oppose him, but they made a peace betweene themselves. This notwithstanding, the King could not obtaine peace of his adversaries, untill the Dukes of *Normandy*, *Aquitaine*, and *Bretagne* being encouraged by Pope *Stephen*, embraced him, and they wrought so, that the Emperour accorded with the Princes Hugh & *Heribert*, who awhile after that was taken by the King, and hanged, because he had imprisoned his Father, which so much

L disturbed

disturbed the repose of *France*, together with the death of *William*, Dukes of *Normandy*, who was murdered by the Count of *Flanders*, that Warres being enkindled over all *France*, the King was taken prisoner by the *Normans*, from being recovered by *Hugh le Blanc*, who delivered him to Count *Thibaut*, who detained him longer for the space of a yeare. The Emperour *Otho* seeing this, debated the cause of *Hugh le Blanc*, and began to maintaine the Kings so long, untill carrying himsele indifferent, hee came to reape the fruite of both their ruines without any danger at all. In conclusion, this last Warre which had continued seven or eight yeares, being ended by an agreement betweene the King and Duke *Hughes* in the City of *Soyssons*, the King dyed of a strange malady in the Moneth of *September*, or according to others, the 12. of *November*, Anno Domini 954, after he had reigned about 19. yeares, leaving by his wife *Gerberge Lotharius* and

Charles.

Charles. This King, (as it is formerly briefly mentioned) to revenge the death of his Father, whom *Hebert Earle of Vermandois*, had kept a prisoner in the Castle of *Peronne* untill hee there dyed, caused one in the habite of an Englishman, to come in haste to his Court at *Landuin*, with Letters which himsele had written, though fained to be sent from the King of *England*. The messenger being entred, and the Letters read softly to the King by his Secretary, the King smiled, and said; The Englishmen are not so wise as I esteem'd them to be: for our Cofin *Harmant*, King of *England*, hath signified unto me by these Letters, that in his Countrey a labouring man inviting his Master to dine at his house, caused him to be slaine, and now hee desires your counsell my Lords, what punishment this fellow hath deserved: Whereupon *Thibaut*, Earle of *Blöys*, said; that hee was worthy to be tortur'd; and then hang'd on a Gibbet: which sentence all

L 2

the

the Lords there present, and also *Hebert* Earle of *Vermandois* did confirme and allow : Whereupon the Kings Officers there provided in a readinesse, apprehended the said *Hebert* Earle of *Vermandois*, unto whom the King said, *Hebert*, this wicked Labourer is thy selfe, who didst put to death thy Lord and Master, King *Charles* my Father, for which thou hast condemned thy selfe to dye by thy owne judgment. Whereupon *Hebert* was hanged on a Gibbet on the top of a Mountaine neare *Lodun*, which since his Execution is called still Mount *Hebert*.

This *Lewis*, (as was said) being nine yeares in *England*, was therefore surnamed *D'entremer*, or from beyond the Seas : Hee was disloyall and unfortunate, for though he endured much affliction, and many unkind fortunes, yet hee was not mended in his life by his sufferings, nor had learned to embrace Vertue, whose Beauty appeares most faire and comely, when

when her eyes are fill'd with teares, making sorrow looke with a sweet and lovely countenance : It is that which in a Prince is most glorious, causing him to fixe his minde onely upon that which may prove beneficiall to the Church and State. But this was not the object wherein this Monarch was delighted, so that he was deprived of that excellency which by Vertue is attained. Besides he did degenerate from the blood of *Charlemaine*, for birth nor adversity did enlarge his narrow thoughts to take pleasure in noble actions : Hee came unto the government after a long absence, which made his returne more gratefull to the Subjects, while his Enemies thought to creepe into his affection by the tender of fained service, especially *William* Duke of *Normandy* : thus Prosperity commands counterfeited offers of fidelity.

Lotharius, the 34. King of France.
Anno 954.



His Lotharius succeeded to the Crowne the 12. of November, Anno Domini 954. Hee gave Burgundy and Aquitaine to Duke Hughes, and would have made him Governour of Aquitaine: But Count William defending his right, shut the Gates

Gates of Poitiers against him. Hughes deceased the 16. of June, Anno Domini 956, leaving Hughes Capet, Otho, Odo, and Henry, with whom the King fell into some differences concerning some Castles which he had seized from them. All which were appeased by Bruno Arch-bishop of Cologne, Unkle to the King, who was sent by the Emperour Otho. After this the King made an Assembly of the Princes and Prelates of France at Soissons, for the surprising of Richard Duke of Normandy, who plotted against the King, but he could not be found.

In the meane time Arnulph the old Count of Flanders being dead, who before had made a donation of his Lands to King Lotharius, caused his body this yeare 965. to be transported into Flanders, thereby to receive the submissions of their fidelity. Lotharius Anno Domini 966. espoused Hemina or Emma, Daughter to Lotharius the 2. King of Italy, and Adeleide, Daughter

to the Emperour *Otho*, as also *Matilde*, Sister of this our *Lotharius*, was married unto *Bernard* King of *Burgundy*. Afterwards the King intending to make Warres upon *Richard* Duke of *Normandy*, at the instigation of *Thibault* Count of *Chartres*, was enforced to come to an agreement with him. A while after *Lotharius* wrought with *Ranier* and *Lambert*, sonnes of the late Count of *Monts* in *Haynaut*, to make him a way for the re-entry upon the Kingdome of *Lorraine*, which the *Almaines* detained from him : which was a cause that *Otho*, to cut off his designs, gave the *Lower Lorraine* to *Charles* the brother of *Lotharius*, to bring him thereby into his disaffection. The King passed with his forces as farre as *Aix*, where he thought to have surpris'd the Emperour ; who to requite him went before *Paris*, from whence hee was notably repulsed : whereupon they came to an accord, and *Lorraine* continued to *Charles*, who then added to his Coate of Armes an Arme proceeding

proceeding out of the clouds. After the death of *Otho*, King *Lotharius* falls againe upon *Lorraine*, which hee did not long enjoy, because hee dyed immediately after, *Anno Domini* 985.

This Kings life was a meere blanke, wherein no brave actions were inscribed for the example of posterity, being a fruitlesse branch, and the first that grew out of his stock, excepting his sonne, who derived from him no sap of vertue, but was also barren in goodnesse : Hee did so contemne his brother *Charles*, whom his Father had left no portion, but his favour, thereby to increase his respect to his eldest brother, so that the Emperour, whose assistance hee desired, undertooke the quarrell. From whence this Note may be collected, that there is no depending on the favour of Kindred, who looke for much reverence, and will doe no justice in rewarding desert, which they rather contemne, untill Vertue despis'd breeds open hatred.

But *Charles* ayded by the Emperour, was

was undiscreeete in his carriage, for the ayde received from the Emperour, made him to cleave too fast to the *Germanes*, and disclaime the *French*, as if kindnesse had altered his nature, and this change drew on the justly conceived hatred of the *French*, and thereby overthrew his estate, by carrying too open a shew of disaffection for the wrong done by his brother, and righted by the Emperour. Lastly, (as we said) *Lewis* dyed, but the remembrance of his Reigne survived to his disgrace and ignominy in succeeding ages, leaving his sonne *Charles* to bee the last King of this second Race.

Lewis

Lewis 5. the 35. King of France.
Anno 986.



After the decease of *Lotharius*, *Lewis* the fift, his onely sonne, succeeded to the Crowne, *Anno Domini 986*, and was consecrated at *Rheimes*. The *Continuator* of *Aimoy-nus* writeth that he reigned nine yeares, as also another Chronicler call'd *Hugh*,
 is

is of the same opinion. Nevertheless it may be proved by certaine testimonies that *Lotharius* dyed *An. Dom. 985*, to whom *Lewis* succeeded, and that *Hugues Capet* began not to reigne before the yeare 987, or 988, so that it appears that this could not reigne above two yeares, and was enterred at *S. Cornelius* of *Compeigne*. Moreover, *Glaber* testifieth that *Lewis* married one *Blanche* which was brought him out of *Aquitaine*, who finding him not a man, left him, and retired into her Country; which makes a likelihood of that which is written touching his death: moreover, that if she were Daughter to the Duke of *Aquitaine*, that she by consequence must be Niece to *Hugues Capet*. This *Lewis* dyed (as many are of opinion) in the same manner as his father did, by the meanes of his Wife *Blanch*, not leaving issue to succeed him. *Odoramus* gave him the surname of *Doe nothing*, because hee had no leasure to performe any thing memorable by the reason of the

the brevity of his Reigne. Moreover, whilst *Charles* Duke of *Lorraine*, was the next by right to succede him, as being his Fathers brother, so is it that *Hugues Capet*, sonne of *Hugues le Blanc* tooke part against him, pretending that (as many do write) that *Lewis* had resigned the Crowne to him by testament and will. But others are of opinion, that he confiding to the power that hee had in *France*, and to the favour which the Nobility and the popularity of *France* did beare him, and through the discontent of having a Competitor who was exceedingly beloved and affected of the *Almaines*, and that he was too slow in gaining the succession of the Kingdom fallen to him, and through the ill will he bore him, because hee had married the Daughter of *Hebert*, Count of *Troyes*, encouraged him to contest against him for the Crowne.

Hugh Capet the 36. King of France.

Anno 987.



Hugh Capet was proclaimed King at Noyon by the Princes, Barons, and Prelates of France, and afterwards annointed at Rheims the third of July, Anno Domini 987, where hee caused also his eldest sonne to be crowned King with him, named Robert; about

about halfe a yeare after, viz. on the first of January. The people, the souldiers, and all the Prelates swore a fealty to Capet against all men, and especially against Charles of Loraine, who came with an Army to challenge and stoutly make claime to his right by force of Armes in France, for the space of foure yeares, and first made himselfe sure of Laon by the meanes of Arnulph, naturall sonne to the late King Lotharius, whither Hugh went to assaile him: but hee made such a briske and valiant sally out against him, that hee shamefully routed both him and his. After having taken the Castle of Montagu, and pillaged the Territories of Soissons and Rheims, he retreated to Laon, and the yeare following hee made himselfe Master & possessor of Rheims, through the intelligence which hee had with the said Arnulph, newly elected Arch-bishop of that See upon the decease of Albero. Whereupon Hugh using the same passages upon Charles, dealt under-hand with

with *Ascelin* or *Anselme*, Bishop of *Laon*, who made a way for him and his Army into *Laon*, where *Charles* was taken, and carryed Prisoner to *Orleans* with *Agnes* his wife, by whom during the time of his imprisonment hee had two children, but all foure of them dyed prisoners. By this prize the Warres against *Charles* being ended, and the Cities of *Laon* and *Rheimes* retaken, yea, and the Dutchy of *France* being incorporated to the Domaines of the Crowne, and the City of *Paris* beginning againe to take upon it the name of a Ciry Royall, *Hugh* caused a Synode to be held at *Rheimes*, whereby *Arnulph* was deposed, and *Gilbert*, Tutor to *Robert* the sonne of *Hugh*, was substituted in his place; whereof the Pope not content, caused a Councell to be called in *France*, by the decree whereof *Gilbert* was dismissed, and *Arnulph* restored. *Hugh* deceased the 22. of November, Anno Dom. 996, and as others report, 998. He was funebrially inhumed

med at *St. Denis* in *France* by his Ancestors.

This King was the first of the Race of the succeeding Kings, being ordained to bring the Kingdome to a flourishing estate, by so many great and eminent vertues meeting in his Person: Hee was furnamed *Capet*, either from the bignesse of his Head, from the Latin word *Capitofus*, or because when hee was young, hee would plucke off his companions Capps, fore-shewing that hee should afterward pluck off Kings Crownes; for when matters were by policy and the affection of *French* advancing his desires fitly prepared, he got possession of the Crowne, though claimed by *Charles*, sonne to *Lothaire*, and with a complement of being unwilling to leave the Crowne to any particular Nobleman, least he should seeme to be preferr'd before the rest equall in desert, his sonne *Robert* propounded to their Election, was also crowned, being a wise and temperate

M Prince,

Prince, that gave much apparent hope of making the Kingdome happy in his fruitfull progeny, pledges of his vertues, some whereof were expressed in this saying: That he was a sonne without frowardnesse, a companion without jealousie, and a King without ambition; which was a sufficient testimony of the goodnesse of his disposition, and that he was wholly bent to those things which were truely honourable, applying his best helpe for maintaining the generall good of his Subjects, whereby he gained the love and obedience of all men; and afterward hee proved an exact Picture of his fathers great and perfect vertues.

Robert

*Robert I. the 37. King of France.
Anno 997.*



Robert succeeded his Father Hugh, Anno Domini 996. Coming to the Crowne hee caused Melun to be surrendered to Count Bachard, which Count Odo of Chartres, sonne of Berthe, sister of Raoul of Burgundy, had possessed. After the death

M 2 of

of his wife *Lutgarde*, he married *Berthe* the widow of *Endon*, Count of *Chartres*, whom he after dismissed, because she was his Godmother; and tooke *Constance*, daughter of *William*, Count of *Arles*, and of *Blanch*, daughter of *Foulques*, Count of *Anjou*. At the same time *Henry*, Duke of *Burgundy*, Vncle by the Father to this *Robert*, dyed without heires. By reason whereof *Otho Guillaume*, surnamed the stranger, pretending a right to that Dutchy, by cause of the adoption which *Henry* had made of him, made himselfe very strong in *Auxerre*, which was taken from him by the King, with the Dutchy of *Burgundy*. *Otho* the sonne of *Charles*, Duke of *Lorraine* being deceased, the Emperour *Henry* caused Count *Godfrey* of *Ardenne* to be invested, notwithstanding that *Geberge* and *Hermengarde*, Sisters of *Otho*, married to *Lambert* and *Aubert* Counts of *Brabant* and *Namures*, would have put them in possession; which was a cause that the King instigated

instigated *Baldwin* Count of *Flanders*, against the Emperour, who siezed upon the Cities, which are upon the River of *Escaut*, as *Valenciennes*, *Dinam*, and others. *Anno Domini* 1015. the King tooke away the City and County of *Sens* from Count *Ramard*, surnamed the *Wicked*, by reason of the insolencies and violences committed upon the Arch-Bishop thereof, and was confiscated to the Crowne. Afterwards hee compelled the *Burgundians* to returne to their obedience, who *Anno Domini* 1016 were revolted: and after, having pacified the quarrell betweene *Richard* Duke of *Normandy*, and *Odo* Count of *Chartres*, who were in great warres, he went to treat with *Henry* the Emperour concerning matters of Religion, and their Dominions and Royalties, in a Parliament which they held together at *Iovy* upon *Chere*. And after having also appeased the quarrell betweene *Endes* Count of *Campagne* and *Chartres*, and *Foulque*, Count of *Anjou*, hee

M 3 deceased

deceased at Melun, *Anno Domini* 1031, having reigned about three and thirty yeares, and lyes interred at St. Denis in France.

This Robert in his whole Reigne expressed much wisdom; for as his father to settle the Crowne on his progeny, had caused him to be enstalled, so hee Crowned Hugh his eldest sonne at Campagne; and after his decease, preferring vertue before eldership, elected the yonger to be King, being of a more Royall disposition, and the Dutchy of Normandy was by Will left unto Robert.

When hee had thus ordered his affaires, and pleased his Subjects with his happy reigne, having got enough Fame and Honour, he dyed, leaving him in the remembrance of Posterity, this opinion deeply settled: That the Kingdom was happy in his government, and blest in his wisdom, resolution, peaceableness, and continency, most eminent vertues, like Starres shining in
the

the Spheare of Majesty; but with a dimme brightnesse in respect of his piety, whence the other derived their borrowed light.

In the praise of the holy Martyres he composed a Hymne, beginning thus: *O constantia Martyrum mirabilis*; and was highly pleased, that his wife, with whose name the former words had some agreement, had an humorous affection to approve his writings, then generally applauded.

Immensum in Regis gloria calcant habet.

*In hope of praise the Muses tune their strings
And hope of Glory maketh vertuous Kings.*

Henry I. the 38. King of France.
Anno 1031.



His Henry succeeded his father Robert, Anno Domini 1031. notwithstanding that his Mother Constance would have advanced her younger sonne Robert to the Crowne by the favour of Baldwin, Count of Flanders, and Ende Count of Champagne.

pagne. But being come upon them by the ayde of the Duke of Normandy, he constrained his brother to content himselfe with the Dutchy of Burgundy. A while after Robert Duke of Normandy visiting the City of Jerusalem, dyed at Nice in Bithynia: by reason whereof Maugier, Arch-bishop of Rouen, and William Lord of Arques his brothers, maintaining themselves to be true Heires, raised great Warres against William the bastard-sonne of the said Duke, by him instituted to bee his Heire, which was a cause that the King sent the said William of Arques, accompanied with a great number of the Nobility of Normandy and France to the Warres of Italy: from whence they were recalled by George Maniaces, Lievtenant for the Emperour of Greece to Pouille and Calabria, to employ them for the recovery of Sicily, which the Saracens had now possessed upon promise of giving them a part. About the yeare 1042, Thibault Count of Chartres,

Chartres, and *Stephen* Count of *Troyes*, fell into a quarrell with the King *Henry*, whereupon hee first fell upon *Stephen*, whom hee in a Battaille overthrew. Afterwards hee deprived *Galleran*, Count of *Meulan* (who tooke their part) of all his lands, and annexed them to the Crowne, and encouraged *Godfrey*, surnamed *Martel*, to make Warre upon *Thibault* whom hee tooke prisoner, and enforced him to surrender up the Towne of *Tours* for his ransom.

After this the King went to visite the Emperour *Henry* at *Mets*, where they confirmed the Alliance made betweene them, which hee broke by supporting *Thibault* against the King, who following the example of his Father, resigned his Crowne to his eldest sonne *Philip*, *Anno Dom.* 1059, being aged 7. yeares, and caused him to bee crowned at *Rheimes* the 29. of *May* the same yeare: the yeare following King *Henry* deceased, leaving the young King and another sonne named *Hugues*, under the
tution

tution of *Baldwin*, Count of *Flanders*. He lyes at *St. Denis*.

This Kings reigne was somewhat troubled at the beginning to maintaine his Title to the Crowne, given him by his Father, but belonging of right to his eldest brother, which bred swelling thoughts betweene the brethren, the Mother maintaining the elders right. An Army was prepared to end the difference, whether the Fathers gift, or right of inheritance were a better Title; but the cause was tryed by the Sword, for *Robert*, whose right was then in question, content with tame patience to loose it, and so prevent the effusion of blood, by his milde disposition doing himselfe injustice. Whereupon agreement being made betweene *Henry* and *Robert*, the Armies returned, and peace was betweene the brothers concluded. Afterward when hee following therein his Fathers example, had seene his son firmly seated in the Throne, Death discovered the love of his Subjects, exprest
in

in their mourning for his decease, and was most honourably interred with the rest of his Predecessors, having all the funerall Rites and Ceremonies which belonged to so high a Monarch, to set forth the excellency of his Person. His Reigne begun with some blustering troubles, being opposed on every side, which soone ended, and his subjects felt the beames of favour shining most gently on them, when this Sunne of Majesty was ready to descend and set, which gave them great cause of lamentation and sorrow for his departure out of this world.

Philip

Philip I. the 39th King of France.
Anno 1060.



Philip succeeded his Father Henry Anno Domini 1060, of whom Baldwin, Count of Flanders, tooke charge in regard of his tender infancy, untill he came to riper yeares: He

He perceiving that the *Gascones* would mutinie, led his forces against them, under pretence of going against the *Saracens*, and by this meanes hee dissipated the beginning of the seditions which were pullulating. A while after *Edward* King of *England* dyed without issue, having by will instituted *William* Duke of *Normandy*, heire and successor to his Crowne, which in vaine was opposed by *Harald* sonne of *Godwin*, because he was slaine in a battaile which *William* gave him. *Baldwin*, Regent of *France*, deceased about the yeare 1067, leaving the County of *Flanders* to *Baldwin* of *Monts* his eldest sonne; at which times King *Philip* might be at the age of 15. or 16. yeares. He married *Berthe*, Daughter of the said *Baldwin*, by whom having two children he divorced her, and betooke himselfe to the Wife of *Foulques*, Count of *Anjou*, whom in the end he dismissed, and returned to *Berthe*. Anno Domini 1095. Pope *Urban* convocated a Councell in
November

November at *Clermont en Auvergne*, wherein the Pope upon the complaint of the Patriarch of *Jerusalem*, and *Peter* the Hermite excited the greatest part of the Princes of *France*, of whom were principall, *Hugh* the Great, brother to King *Philip*; *Robert* Duke of *Normandy*, brother to the King of *England*; *Godfrey* of *Bovillon*, (who in the yeare 1089, had the Dutchy of *Lorraine* given him) with his two brothers *Baldwin* and *Eustachius*, together with the Counts of *Flanders* and *Tholouze*, of *Bourges* and *Bloys*, to goe to *Jerusalem*, which was taken in the yeare of our Lord, 1099, the 15. of July, and was given to *Godfrey* of *Lorraine*, to defend and keepe it as Governour under the Title of a King. After that hee tooke in *Palestine*, after having slaine above five thousand *Ægyptians* in a battaile, and seized upon the Port of *Jasse*, making hereby an end of the Warre. *Philip* at the age of 57, deceased at *Melun* the 25. of July, Anno Dom. 1109, and

and lyeth interred at *St. Benets* upon the *Loire*. *William* the bastard Duke of *Normandy*, having beene long sick of a great swelling in his belly, this King *Philip* intending to make Warre against him, sent him word that hee had laine long in Child-bed, and that if he might know of his uprising, hee would provide lights against his Churching. To which scoffe the Duke return'd this answer; That hee would come in person into *France*, and have a solemne Masse sung at his Churching, and that for Lights, he would provide a thousand wooden Torches without waxe, and a thousand Lances tipt with Steele to fire those Torches, meaning by the Torches, Houses, Townes, and Villages; by the Lances, Souldiers to set them on fire.

The dissention betwixt *England* began in this Kings reigne, and upon this occasion: *VWilliam* the Conquerors sonnes, *Robert* and *Henry*, came to the King at *Conflans* upon *Oise*, and playing

playing there at Chesse with *Lewis* King *Philips* sonne, the young Princes fell out, and words drew on blows, for *Lewis* called *Henry* the sonne of a Bastard, and *Henry* strooke at him with the Chesse-boord, and had slaine him if *Robert* had not stayd his fury. Afterward *Robert* and *Henry* fled into *Normandy*, where they complained of wrong, and incensed many to take their part. Afterward naturall affection made the Fathers embrace their Childrens quarrell, invading one anothers Territories, and maintaining hot warres. But to conclude, the memorable Warre undertaken to recover the *Holy-land* from the *Saracens*, was now begun under the conduct of *Godfrey* of *Bologne*, who being chosen King of *Jerusalem*, refused the Diadem, saying, *It is not fit for any Christian Prince to weare a Crowne of Gold, since Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, did weare one made of Thornes.*

Lewis the 6. the 40. King of France.
Anno 1109.



His *Lewis the Grosse* succeeded to the Crowne after *Henry* his Father, and was solemnly Crowned at *Orleans* by *Gislebert*, Arch-Bishop of *Sens*, Anno Domini 1109. He first beganne to quell the pride and power of the great Lords of *France*, who

who countenanced by the King of *England*, arose up against him : but in the end he accomplished his designs. In those times the Englishmen moved their first warres upon the *French*, in the behalfe of Count *Thibault* of *Campaigne* and *Bloys*. But the King in revenge commanded *William* the sonne of *Robert* Duke of *Normandy*, and sent him, accompanied with *Baldwin*, Count of *Flanders*, and *Foulques*, Count of *Anjou*, with an army to surprisethem ; whereupon there was a peace made betweenethem and the English, to quit *Gisors* to *William* the sonne of *Henry*. *Baldwin* Count of *Flanders*, being wounded in the Conquest of *Normandy*, went to end his life in *Flanders*; who for want of issue instituted *Charles*, son of *Cnutus*, King of *Denmark*, to bee his heire. In the meane time the King being advertised that the Emperour came in aide of the English, prevented his designe, and forced him to retreate. He forced also the Count of *Auvergne*,

and the Vicount of *Polignac*, to give satisfaction to the Bishop of *Clermon*; and at his returne he notified to *William* Duke of *Aquitaine*, that onely *Avergne* but also *Aquitaine* were in tenure of the Crowne of *France*. The County of *Flanders* was in question betweene *Arnulph* the Dane, *Baldwin* Count of *Haynaut*, and *William* of *Ipres*, by the death of *Charles*, who was slaine in *S. Donatus*, in *Bruges*; and by the King it was adjudged to *Robert* Duke of *Normandy*, by right of consanguinity; whereupon warres ensued. After that the King caused his sonne *Philip* to be Crowned at *Rheimes*, the fourteenth day of *April*, 1129. the King of *England* being in presence; but two yeares after hee dyed, by meanes of a Hogge that came under his Horse feete, and frighted the Horse, that hee threw him on the ground. *Lewis* his brother was Crowned in his place by *Pope Innocent*, the five and twentieth of *October*. 1131.

Lewis

Lewis the *Grosse* deceased at *Paris* Anno Dom. 1137. leaving fixe Children.

Baldwin, Earle of *Mons* in *Henault*, complaining unto *Lewis* the *Grosse*, that he had wrongfully given the Earledom of *Flanders*, which was his right, unto Duke *William* of *Normandy*, and desiring to have leave granted to maintaine his Title by Combate. The King said, You must combat then against me; for the Seignory which you claime is my right and inheritance. This King also in a Battaile, being severed from his Souldiers, was likely to be taken Prisoner by an English Knight, who laying hold on the raines of his Horse, cryed aloud, The King is taken: whereupon the King valiantly kild the Knight, and as he fell downe, said: One man alone cannot in Chesse play, give the King the Mate.

At a certaine siege, being forsaken of his Souldiers, in regard of the unseasonableness of the weather, and

N 3

con-

constrained to retire, hee said with a brave kind of anger ; That an honest and honourable death was better than a shamefull and dishonourable life. The last action of his reigne was the marrying of his sonne unto the daughter and heire of *William Duke of Normandy* ; by this allyance to settle a more firme peace, and make his sonne strong in friends, while his younger sons were compelled to depend on the meere favour of their elder brother ; on whom the estate being settled, they might thereby be instructed to shew unto him a willing obedience ; for equality breeds discord and grumbling ; but an acknowledged dependance on another procures respect ; for necessity makes brave minds glad to be oblieged.

Lewis

Lewis the 7. the 41. King of France.
Surnamed Augustus.
Anno 1137.



His *Lewis* undertooke the government the same Moneth wherein his Father dyed, and married *Eliaenor*, the onely daughter of *William Duke of Guienne*, and *Poitou*. Afterwards hee made warre
 N 4 upon

upon the Count of *Vermendois*, because following the censures of the Pope, hee repudiated *Peronelle*, sister to Queene *Elianor*, that he might re-entertaine his former wife, whom before he had divorced. And taking the Towne of *Vitry* in *Parthois*, hee put to the sword and fire more than 3500 persons: for the expiation of which fact, *St. Bernard* advised him to make a voyage with his Army into the Holy Land, for the succour of *Palestine*. Whither hee arriving with his army, he had but an ill trick put upon him by the Emperour of *Greece*: Moreover, perceiving his Army much affoibled by the assaults of the *Turkes*, he saved himselfe in the towne of *Attalia*, and came to *Antioch*, where the King conceived a great distaste against his Wife, who had accompanied him all that voiage. Afterwards he joyned forces with *Conradus* the Emperour, for the beleaguering of *Damietta*. But that siege tooke no effect, through the envy of the old Christians there, conceived against

against the new-commers; which was a cause that the Emperour, and the King retreated each to his owne home, where the King was in danger to have bin surprised by the Emperour of *Greece*; but he was rescued by *George*, Lievtenant of the King of *Sicily*. The King upon his returne divorced his Wife, who married with *Henry* Count of *Aniou*, and *Normandy*, who should succede to the Crowne of *England*, bearing with him the Counties *Poictou* and *Aquitaine*. Afterwards the King took to wife *Constance*, the daughter of *Alphonjús*, King of *Castile*, who being deceased he tooke *Adele*, or *Ale*, (*alias*) *Alice*, daughter of the Count of *Champagne*, by whom, *An. Dom. 1165*. he had a sonne named *Philip*, and surnamed *Deodotus*: to whom, the King growne aged, resigned his Crowne, notwithstanding hee was but 14. yeares of age, and was Crowned at *Rheimes*, *An. Dom. 1179*. King *Lewis* deceased the 19. or the 29. of *September*; although some report upon the 29. of the

the same Moneth, or *August*, *An. Dom.* 1180. Hee lyed interred in the Abby of *St. Barbeau*, which hee had formerly built.

In his reigne the Holy Land, which the Christians had taken, seemed to bee utterly conquered, remaining under the Christians obedience, untill the unhappy death of *Godfrey of Benillon*; for when the Commander was gone, whose unsuspicious good fortune put life into this action, the Warre did not prosper, yet before his death he encountred an Army of sixe thousand men, which the *Turkes* had brought into *Palestine*, and came off with very good successe, and had so proceeded, if his Death had not prevented, the good fortune of Christendome. For the name of so great a Warriour conducting an Army, prepares the way for conquest, as opinion of victory; and learning is a great Engine in policy to bring about matters. This King lost some reputation by his unchast Wife
Elenor,

Elenor, who following him to the Holy Land, blotted her Fame with a sensuall imputation, loving *Saladin* a Iester better than the King her Husband; thereby shewing that lust is base, and doth not regard either birth or honour. Yet *Lewis* (shewing the vertuousnesse of his minde, and Noblenesse of disposition) brought her backe in his owne Ship, because he would not bee derided by any forraigne Prince: but beeing safely landed, he was much oppressed with griefe, in stead of casting her in the River, which she had deserv'd, he covered her shame and his owne by a divorce granted by a general counsell, punishing her by shewing too much mercy, while hee sought onely to be freed from the disgrace.

Philip

*Philip 2. surnamed Augustus, the
42. King of France. Anno 1180.*



AFTER the decease of *Lewis 7.* *Philip 2.* succeeded to the Kingdom *Anno Domini 1180*, out of which he chased the *Jewes* then there, and by his prowess and conquests acquired the name of *Augustus* and *Conquerour*. He married *Isabelle* (or) *Alice*, Daughter

Daughter of *Baldwin 4.* Count of *Flanders*, in favour of which Marriage hee resigned the County of *Artois*: but afterwards taking upon him the cause of *Lionor* the Inheritrix of *Elizabeth*, (or) *Mabel*, Countesse of *Flanders*, in the Counties of *Vermandois* and *Valois*, against the Count *Flamend*, who layd claime to the said Counties, as being of the ancient stocke of *Flanders*, hee tooke onely that of *Vermandois*, leaving that of *Valois* to the said *Flamend*, whereupon he being in an indignation, went and performed homage to the King of *Germany*, the eldest sonne of the Emperour, for the County of *Flanders*. *Richard* also, Duke of *Aquitaine*, second sonne of the King of *England*, began to dis-acknowledge the King: whereupon the King made warre against him, and tooke some Townes from him; but they were immediately accorded by the Popes Legate, by whose perswasion they entred a League upon an expedition for the *Holy-land*. But this

this agreement was incontinently broken upon new differences which happened between the Kings of *England* and *France*; during which, the King tooke into his possession the Counties of *Mans* and *Tours*, whereupon King *Henry* of *England* tooke a conceite, and dyed in the Castle of *Chinon*: whereupon *Richard* his sonne undertaking the Kingdome, married *Adele* Sister to King *Philip*, and they both went to the *Holy Land*: where arriving they tooke the Towne of *Acre* the twelfth of *July*, 1191. After, upon some jealousies conceived betweene them, *Philip* returned into *France*, leaving the charge of his Army to the Duke of *Burgundy*. And because *Philip*, Count of *Flanders* was deceased, the King retained to himselfe the County of *Artois*, which hee gave to Prince *Lewis*. Whereupon *England* made warres against him, which were ended by the death of *Richard*; to whom *John* being substituted, and losing the battaile at

Bonnivel,

Bonnivel, the King caused his sonne *Lewis* to be proclaimed King of *England*, which hee afterwards left to *Henry* the sonne of *John*. After that King *Philip* sent his sonne *Lewis* against the *Albigensis*, and as the said *Philip* held a Parliament at *Nantes*, he deceased of a Feaver, in the 43. yeare of his Reigne, in the Moneth of *July*, Anno Domini 1223.

This King being to joyne battaile with the Emperour *Otho*, having caused a gilt Bowle to be filled with Wine and sopps of bread, hee said; Princes and Lords of *France*, heere with me assembled, let every one that is resolv'd to live and dye with me this day, shew his resolution by taking a sop out of the Bowle of Wine, and eating it as I have done: which words being spoken, the Cup was presently emptied, and afterward the battell being joyned, the King got the victory. Being informed by his Courtiers that some Royall Jurisdictions belonging to the Crowne were

were usurped by the Clergy, his answer was, *I had rather connive at some petty injuries, than commence Suits against the Semitears of God and his Church.* This King having put away his Queene *Gelberge*, the King of *Denmarke* complained to the Pope of this wrong done to his Sister, and a day of hearing was appointed before the Popes Legate in the Bishops Hall at *Paris*: *Philips* Cause was well defended by his Advocates, but when none appeared to plead for the Queene, a young man unknowne steps forth of the presse, and demands audience; and having deliver'd the truth, and pleaded against the King for the Queene, and when his Speech was ended, hee returned into the presse againe, and was never seene more, neither was it ever knowne from whence he came. The amazed Judges remitted the Cause to the Councell, and King *Philip* did ride presently to *Bois de Vincennes*, where *Gelberge* was confined, and having embrac'd her, receiv'd her
into

into favour, and lived with her afterward in nuptiall love. And heereby it may bee discerned, that no man can bring Nature to any perfection, for this worthy Prince was much troubled in minde, and divided in his thoughts by loving this *Gelberge*, whom he could not forsake, for she had got such strong possession in his affection, that he could not turne her remembrance out of his heart, pass'd away to her by deed of gift. Thus hee that could overcome his Enemies, could not conquer his passions. He reigned 44. yeares, and by his vertue governed the State with such wisdom, that all his troubles had a happy faire end, from whence this conclusion may be drawne, That a virtuous King is in the end happy, howsoever hee bee compassed in with difficulties.

Lewis the 8. and 43. King of France.
Anno 1223.



Lewis, the eldest sonne of Philip, succeeded to the Crowne, Anno Domini 1223. Hee, together with his wife Blanch, sister to the King of Castile, was Crowned at Rheimes, the 6. of August, to whom afterwards the Surname of Montpensier was given, because

cause he dyed there : In the beginning of his reigne, he renewed the ancient consideration and alliance which was betweene France and Almayn, and upon his returne he led his Army into Guienne ; where in a set battaile he overthrew the English, whereof Savary of Maleon had the command : by meanes whereof the French tooke the townes of Niot, S. John D'Angely, and Rochelle, leaving nothing of the Countrey of Guienne, on this side the River Garonne, unreduced to the obedience of the King. In somuch, that all the Lords as well of Poictou, as Lymosin, and Perigort, came to sweare him fealty and obedience. Amaury also, sonne to the Count of Montfort, came to resigne into the hands of the King of France the right which his Father had left him in the Countries of Alby, Languedoc, Agenois, Quercy, and the Countrey of Tholouze, whom in recompence he made his Constable, knowing him to be a man capable of such a charge. The yeare following

Richard, Brother to the King of *England*, besieged *Rockelle*; but hearing of the comming of the French Army, he passed over *Dardonne* with his forces, and so into *England* to his brother. The yeare following, the King, with the greatest part of his Nobility, upon the encouragement of the Popes Legate, addrested himselfe to goe against the *Albigenses* and *Tholosans*, to encounter whom, he led his Army, and encamped on *Wisfun Eve*, before *Avignon*, which he tooke: passing further, hee received the keyes of all the Townes, Places, and Castles of *Languedoc*, as farre as within foure leagues of *Thoulouze*: where, through the incommodity of the winter, and maladies which much weakned his Army, he retreated and wintered in *France*, with an intent of returning thither the Spring following to accomplish his enterprize. But his death prevented him at *Montpensier* in *Auvergne*; the twelfth day of *November*, 1226. leaving *Lewis*, *Charles*,
Al-

Alphonse, and *Robert* his sonnes, all very young, and in their minority of yeares.

This King reigned but three yeares, in whom Vice had struck no reproach, nor Vertue had made him famous; whereby it seemes that his minde was of a middle temper, not so poore as to become impious or wicked, nor so well bent and enclined to noble actions, that hee would strive to get Fame by his owne vertue; therefore he was onely famous in this, That hee was Sonne to an excellent Father, and Father to an excellent sonne.

In his reigne the Counsell of *Lateran* was assembled, whither resorted all the chiefe Bishops of Christendome, and Embassadors sent from Kings and Princes.

After *Lewis* had subdued the *Albigois*, and left Governour to suppress any rebellion which should happen, for the affection of conquered people is treacherous, who doe watch only an opportunity

tunity to revolt; hee came to Mount *Pensier*, in the yeare 1225. October the seventh, and there resigned his life and Scepter, leaving a faire progeny, having foure sonnes, who were flourishing Branches of the Royall stemme, the eldest whereof was heire unto his Fathers Crowne, but inherited more vertue than his Father gave him by naturall discent. The *Flemings* were now much disquieted by an Imposture, pretending that he was their Prince; some were drawne to beleve his claime, untill by putting him to death the people were better satisfied, and cleerely discerned that his right was meere fiction, maintained by boldnesse, as that Scene was, wherein *Parkin Werbecke* in *England* plaid the same part.

S. Lewis

S. Lewis 9. the 44. King of France.
Anno 1226.



His *Lewis* the 9. at the age of 12. yeares, succeeded his Father, *An. Dom. 1226.* Hee was consecrated at *Rheims* by the Arch-bishop of *Sens* in the absence of him of *Rheims.* *Blanch* taking of possession of her sonne *Lewis*, confirmed herselfe Regent of the

the Kingdome with the consent of the States : whereupon the Princes in a rage proclaimed *Philip* Count of *Bologne*, Uncle to the King by the Fathers side, Regent of *France*, which was a cause of great dissentions. Shee brought through the sweetnesse of her words, *Robert* Count of *Dreux* into the Kings obedience. But the Duke of *Bretagne*, and the Count of *Champagne*, with the King of *England*, were enforced to acknowledge the King, on condition that the *Breton* should doe homage to the King for his Dutchy, whereupon he was surnamed *Maclarke*. Hee having out-growne his minority, *Anno Dom. 1234.* espoused *Magaret* the eldest Daughter of *Raymund Berenger*, Count of *Provence*, and after erected the Countrey of *Artois* into a County or Earledome, which he gave to his brother *Robert*, who was the first Earle thereof. Hee made a voyage into the *Holy Land*, where he tooke *Damietta* after hee had overthrowne the *Mamelucks* :

lucks : and from thence marching to beleaguer *Massaure*, the plague grew amongst his Army, which caused the *Soldan* of *Ægypt* to charge him so strongly, that he was taken, and most of his Army slaine, neverthelesse hee was freed upon the re-delivery of *Damietta*.

About that time *Blanch*, Mother to the King, deceased, which caused the King immediately to returne into *France*, after he had composed all matters in *Palestine*. Being returned, hee studied to polish and embellish his Kingdome with good and holy Lawes. Hee made an accord with the King of *England*, who by that renounced all the right which hee pretended to the Kingdome of *France*, and the Dutchy of *Normandy*. About that time *Charles*, brother to the King, conquered both the *Sicilies*, whereof hee was crowned King, *An. Dom. 1266.* The King *Lewis* made a second voyage for the recovery of the *Holy Land*, together with the King

King of *England*. Hee went first into *Africke*, where he tooke *Carthage*, and at the siege of *Tunes* hee departed this life, *Anno Domini* 1270. Hee was canonized after his death for the holinesse of his life. Hee founded the holy Chappell at the Palace at *Paris*, wherein he placed many holy Reliques.

This King being asked by his Lords what Title of honour he would assume, as the *Roman* Emperours and Kings of *France* in remembrance of their Acts and Victories had formerly done, hee answered, My greatest victory was obtained against the Devill, when I was baptized in the Church of *Poissi*: and therefore it shall be my greatest honour to be called *Lewis of Poissi*. His familiar Letters, wherein hee did not entitle himseife King of *France*, but *Lewis of Poissi*, being blamed by a private friend, hee said, I am like a *Twelve-tide King*, chosen with a Beane, and keeping his Feast in the Evening: intimating thereby his Election to another Crowne in the

the Kingdome of Heaven, which second Coronation should be in the Evening and end of his life. Having caused a swearer and blasphemer to be branded on the lips with a hot Iron, whereat the people murmur'd: he said he would undergoe the same punishment, conditionally that oaths and blasphemies might be no more used in his kingdom. He sitting in Counsell, or beginning any action, would according to his Mothers instruction in his infancy, blesse himseife with the signe of the Crosse. And lastly, he gave unto his son *Philip* these instructions at his death. My Sonne, love God with all thy heart, with all thy strength, and with all thy soule; offend not God in any case, suffer any torment rather than sinne: Beare all adversity patiently, acknowledging that God hath sent it unto thee deservedly: Make thy Confession often to some Minister of the Church; heare diligently the divine service sung in the Church of God: Keepe the good customes of thy Kingdome carefully,

carefully, abolishing those which are evil: Impose no Taxes on thy Subjects, but upon great occasion. Favour those that feare GOD, love Justice, and hate Covetousnesse: Let not thy Judges be impartiall against thy Subjects: Keepe the Cities and Townes gotten by thy Predecessors; preferre good and sufficient men to Benefices and Offices: Be an Example to thy Subjects, moderate the expences of thy Court, and so God blesse thee. These were the good instructions which this godly Monarch gave unto his Sonne for the leading of an upright life, and to abandon all worldly delights and pleasures, so as hee might both please God, and be a patterne to his inferiours.

Philip

Philip 3. the 45. King of France. 8
Anno 1271.



After the decease of S. Lewis, Philip the third, surnamed the Hardy, his eldest sonne, having beene proclaimed King in the Campe before Tunis in Africk, tooke his journey in his returne through Italy, directly to Viterbe, to make an agreement between

twene the Cardinals, who in two years space were in a dissention upon the Election of a Pope. Hee was Crowned at *Rheimes* by the Bishop of *Soissons*, the thirtieth of *August*, *Anno Dom.* 1271. He after incorporated the County of *Tholouse* to the Crowne, upon the decease of the Count *Alphonse* his uncle. He went to aide *Gerard* of *Cassebonne*, his Subjects, against the Counts of *Armignu* and *Foix*, by reason whereof, the Count of *Foix* submitted himselfe to his mercy. He restored the Countrey of *Navarre* to the obedience of *Ioane*, daughter of the late *Henry* King of *Navarre* deceased. The King married *Mary*, the daughter of *Henry* Duke of *Brabant*, who was suspected to have poysoned *Lewis*, the eldest sonne of the King, by his first wife *Isabelle* of *Aragon*: She was found innocent by the report of two Bishops who were sent to a Nunne, or rather a Sorceresse, to know the truth. The yeare after *Peter Dela Bresche*, great Chamberlaine of
France,

France, and superintendant of the *Finances*, and affaires of the King, was hanged, being accused and convicted, for having discovered the secrets of *France* to the King of *Spaine*, together with the death of the Kings sonne. *Anno Domini* 1282. the *Sicilian* Evensong were executed upon the *Frenchmen*, upon an Easter day, or (as others report) on the thirtieth of *March*, or thirteenth of *April*: whereupon *Charles*, Uncle to the King, offered battaile to *Peter* of *Aragon*, the author thereof, but he refused it. Afterwards the King having caused *Ioane*, the onely daughter of the late *Henry*, King of *Navarre*, to be married to his eldest sonne *Phillip*, he marched with his Army for the Conquest of *Aragon*, which by the Pope had been given to *Charles de valois*, the second sonne of *Philip*, who conquered the County of *Russillon*; after that the City of *Gennes*. And after that, having in an *Embuscado* slaine the King of *Aragon*, he forced the Towne of *Gironne*

to be yeelded up. He went to conclude his Fate at the Towne of *Perpignan*, of a Malady which surpris'd him in his Campe, *Anno Domini* 1285. the 6. of *October*.

This King, as it appeares in the whole course of his life, would engage himselfe in all busineses, and was therefore called the *Hardy*; but his desperate Father would not undertake his Neighbours quarrells, nor seek to make betwene them any agreement, unlesse it might be done by safe and quiet means. The reigne of this King was much disturbed by the warres maintained by *Peter* and *Roger* for the Isle of *Sicily*, and after much effusion of blood, *Charles* dyed, and also *Peter*, though politicke, could not deceive death, but having received a great overthrow, concluded his Act of life with grieve and sorrow. At last this King was by *Roger*, Admirall of *Arragon*, friend unto *Peter* set upon him, lying sicke a bed at *Pepignan*; yet in extremitie he exprest a noble courage,

rage, and with his sicke weake voyce so encouraged his Souldiers, that *Roger* was droven out of *Pepignan*, the City held by *Philip* so distempered with this alarum, that he grew sicke and dyed the fifteenth of *October*, two moneths after *Peter*, Pope *Martin* the fourth dying the same yeare, 1286. to shew great Princes, that their chiefe designs are crost by death.

It was now decreed in a Counsell at *Lions*, that the Cardinals meeting after the Popes death, should not come out of that Conolme untill they had chosen the Pope, which begun upon occasion of the tedious Election of the former Pope, and the Decree is still observed. *Thomas Aquinas* now dyed, being a subtile disputer: But *Bonaventure*, *John Duns*, called *Scot*, and *Gabriel Biel* succeeded, and were famous schollers.

And to conclude, hee was a Prince borne for a testimony to that obscure age, and for corrupted times, to bee a patterne to all Kings and Princes of religion,

igion, equity, clemency, wisdom, valour, magnanimity, patience, and constancy: to love piety, justice, order and peace, to joyne the love of sanctity and modesty of manners, with Armes and State. Having shewed that it is very fitting for a King to be a good Christian, a good warrior, a good husband, a good father, a good governour, a good Iustier, and to know how to make war and peace. That it is very necessary to joyne unto the Majesty Royall, piety, clemency, and authority to gaine the low respect and obedience. And lastly, that the best guard, and most assured renew of a Prince, is the love of his Subjects. Thus he was worthy of that venerable name, wherewith posterity hath justly honoured him, being the Honour of vertue.

Philip

Philip 4. the 46. King of France.
Anno 1286.



Philip 4. surnaming himselfe *The Faire*, King of Navarre, succeeded his Father, *An. Dom. 1286.* After that he had withdrawne his Army from *Parpignan*, hee was crowned at *Rheims* the sixt of *January*. He caused the *Palace* to be built at *Paris*: at that
P 2 time

time *Edward*, King of *England*, pretending to lead his Army to the aide of the Towne of *Acre*, which the *Saracens* had now beleaguered, made some incursions upon the Sea-townes of *Normandy*, thinking to have surpris'd *Rochell*: whereupon ensued the second Warre which the *French* had against the *English*, (Heere the *French Writers* shew themselves most shamefully partiall and false, yet I am bound to follow my Authors, they being of that Nation) who notwithstanding their alliance with the Emperour *Adolphus*, were valiantly repulsed as well by *Charles* of *Valois*, where the Lord of *St. John* was taken; as by *Robert* of *Artois*, who gained the victory upon the fresh Army, which *Edmund*, brother to the King of *England*, had led to *Bayonne*: yea, and the Count of *Flanders*, who declared himselfe on the *English* party, lost the battle at *Furnes* against the Count of *Artois*, who went to joyne forces with the *French* who besieged *Lisfe*: and the
 Lords

Lords of *Mont Morency* and *Harcourt* tooke the Towne of *Dover*. The *English* perceiving that, demanded a Truce, which was converted to a peace, by the Marriage of Madam *Marguerite* of *France*, Daughter of King *Philip*, with the King of *England*.

Afterwards the Emperour *Albert* and this King made an accord betweene them for the conservation of their kingdoms against all men. A while after, the Pope being much moved against the King, sent a Bull into *France* by the Arch-bishop of *Narbona*, interdicting the King, which Bull was burnt in the Court of the Palace. At that time the *Flemings* slew all the *French* Garrisons; whereupon the King being enraged, sent his Army to *Courtrac*, which was by them defeated. Whilest the King sent the Lords, *Tarra* a *Colonian*, and *Nogareth* with 2000. Horse into *Italy*, they put the Pope in such a terrour, that he dyed: The King also tooke such a revenge upon the *Flemings* neare to the

Mount of *Poville*, that hee overthrew 36000. of them. After that, the King having suppressed the Knights *Templars*, and causing *James de Moulay* or *Beavien*, Generall of that Order, deceased at *Fontainebleau*, *An. Dom. 1314*, and lyes inhumed at *St. Denis*.

This King being perswaded to take revenge on a Bishop who had underhand strooke fire to kindle the tinder of contention betweene him and the Pope, he said: That it was more noble in a Prince to save, than kill; to pardon, than to persecute; and to forgive and remit, rather than to revenge: for saith he, It must be of necessity that all things which angry men doe, must needs be full of blindness and necessity, because it is no easie matter for a man troubled with envy, to have the use of Reason; and whatsoever is without Reason, is without Art. It behooveth us therefore to take reason as our guide in all our actions, and to remove these passions of envy and revenge, for they ought

ought not to rest in a wise mans breast: Yet he was much affronted by Pope *Boniface*, commanding him by his *Bull* to succour the *Tartar*, which the King, engaged in many affaires, refusing to doe, the Bishop sent by the Pope, told him: That if the King would not obey the Pope, he would deprive him of his Realme. But afterward two Gentlemen imployed by the King, seized on the Pope in his Palace-Hall at *Anagma*, and carryed him to *Rome*, where he grew mad, and dyed Thirty five dayes after hee was taken, and had this Epitaph made by common Fame in his disgrace: *Hee entred his Topedome like a Foxe, hee reigned like a Lyon, and dyed like a Dogge.*

*Lewis the 10. the 47. King of France,
surnamed Hutin. Anno. 1315.*



His *Lewis* the tenth, already by his Mother King of Navarre, Count of *Brye*, and *Champagne*, succeeded his Father, *Anno Domini* 1315. His Kingdome from the beginning was marvellously troubled with muti-

mutinies and popular seditions ; and for that cause he was surnamed *Hutin*, which in old language imports mutiny and quarrells. *Enguran De Marigny* Count of *Longue Ville*, was accused before the King, by *Charles of Valois*, the Kings Vncle, for having ill governed the *Finances*, charged the people with many impositions and taxes, and infinite confusions ; also for having taken money of the *Flemings* to grant them a peace to the disadvantage of the King : wherefore he was hanged upon the Gallows of *Paris*, which himselfe had caused to be built.

Afterwards the King caused himselfe to bee annoynted, and Crowned at *Rheimes*, upon the Feast of the *Assumption* of the B. *Virgin* : then he led his Army against the *Flemings*, whom he forced to raise and forsake the siege of *L'Isle*. And at his returne he seated the Court of Parliament at *Paris*, to the end, that the pleaders should not be anymore incommodated by so often removing

moving it. The yeare following the Count of *Flanders* came to visite the King at *Pontoise*, to treat of a peace with him. In the interim, *Lewis* Count of *Navers*, his sonne, would sieze upon *Flanders*, if the *Flemings* would have beene content therewith, which was a cause that his Father returned after that hee had promised the King to ratifie to the *Flemings* that which he had treated with him. Vpon this the King was surprised with a Malady at *Bois De Vincennes*, whereof he died the fifteenth of *June*, in the eighteenth moneth of his reigne, leaving his second wife *Clemence* great with Childe, who was delivered of a sonne the foureteenth of *November*, who was baptised *Iohn*, who lived above eight dayes, there remaining none of his Line, but *Ioane*, whom he had by his first wife, the daughter of *Robert* Duke of *Burgundy*: by whom, *Eudes*, Duke of *Burgundy*, her Vncle, would lay claime to the Crowne: but *Philip* the *Tall*, brother to the late King *Lewis*

Lewis, opposing the Lawes and Customes of *France*, in right of his Neece caused the Crowne to be adjudged unto him.

Lewis the tenth, surnamed *Hutin* had two Wives, *Marguerite*, daughter of *Robert* Duke of *Burgundy*, by whom he had a daughter named *Ioane*, who was married after to *Philip* Count of *Evreux*, sonne to *Lewis* of *France*, brother to the late *Philip* the *Faire*, and by this meanes the Kingdome of *Navarre* entered into the families of the Counts of *Evreux*: and *Clemence* sister to *Carlobert*, King of *Hungary*, whom at his decease he left with Child of a sonne who was called *Iohn*: and although he dyed an infant, without having beene crowned, hee hath not beene heretofore ranked in the Catalogue of the Kings of *France*. Neverthelesse, seeing that he was truly legitimate, and sole heire to King *Lewis* *Hutin*, he deserved the title Royall, and to bee inserted to the number of Kings, seeing that dying hee was with

with solemnity, and Regall pompe carryed to *St. Denis* ; the Princes, his Vncles, and kinred being present at his Funeralls; where hee was proclaimed, although dead, *King of France, and Navarre*. In the meane time that *Clemence* was with Child, immediately upon the decease of *Lewis Hutin*, it was ordered by the Court of Parliament, that *Monsieur Philip of France*, Count of *Poitiers*, should be Regent of the *Kingdome* untill the fruit of the Queene (if it were Male) should attaine to the maturity of eightene yeares: and therefore hee bore in his Armes the Title of *Philip Sonne of the King of France, and Navarre, Regent of the Kingdomes of France, and Navarre*. And so the Regency was given to the next Prince of Blood, so that hee were the nearest to succeed the Crowne. After the death of the said *John*, who lived but eight daies, or at the most but 20 daies, (as some do write) there was some dispute amongst the Princes of the kingdome, some main-

maintaining the right to bee ill grounded upon *Ioane*, daughter to the late *Lewis Hutin* : and others resting upon the Iustice of the *Salique Law*, which yet was never violated in *France*, and ordayneth, that there being never an heire Male of a King, the next of Blood, of the Male side, shall come to the Crowne, and excludes the daughters and the descendents from them, although they be Males. But in the end the Parliament of the *Paires* and Counsell of *France*, adjudged that *Philip the Tall*, Vncle to the late *John*, was the true and lawfull heire to the Crowne: which was the first debate and difference of the *Salique Law*.

The King reigned but an yeare and an halfe, thereby to make good the position of Philosophy, *Nullum violentum est eternum* ; for his government was violent, and therefore could not long continue. *Enguerand*, accused by *Charles Earle of Valois*, and made odious to the people by his oppression of them,

them, whereof they are onely sensible, was made a Sacrifice and Hanged; but after his execution the Earle of *Valois* fell into a languishing Consumption, & King *Lewis Hutin* dyed suddainly, so that the people began to imagine that *Enguerands* unjust death was thus revenged on these Princes; which change of their opinion, shewes that it was rightly spoken: what the people saies, a foole speakes: Therefore it is observable, that good Subjects may be unjustly afflicted, that the people blinded by passion, and discerning not the truth, will undeservedly speake well and ill of the same Action, and the same man. And lastly, that great men, loving not to come to accompt, may abuse their authority.

Philip

Philip 5. the 48. King of France.
Anno 1317.



His *Philip* the 5, surnamed *The Tall*, the controversie of the right to the Crowne being not yet determined betweene him and his Neece, (Daughter to *Lewis Hutin*) whom *Endes* her Unkle upheld, and maintained her right, marched with an

an Army every where compleate to *Rheims*, where hee made himselfe to be annointed King by the Arch-bishop of that See on the Feast of the *Epiphany*, Anno Dom. 1317, and after returned to *Paris*: Whither hee summoned *Robert* Count of *Artois*, whom he forced to renounce the right which he pretended to that Countrey, whereof hee had *Vi & Armis*, by force and Armes taken possession, to the prejudice of *Mahaut* his Wives Mother. In the meane time *Lewis*, Count of *Nevers*, Sonne of *Robert* Count of *Flanders*, entertained the *Flemings* to his utmost endeavours in a revolt against the King; who, because hee came not to render homage for the Countreies which hee held in *France*, was cited to answer for himselfe before the King: and fayling in his appearance, all his possessions were seized for the King. In the end the said *Lewis*, Count of *Nevers*, came and submitted himselfe to the King, and recovered his Countreies. After, upon perswasion

swasion of the Popes Legate, there was a peace concluded betweene the King and the Count of *Flanders*, the 15. of May, Anno Dom. 1320, insomuch that the said Count did homage for his Lands to the King of *France*, and accorded that *Lewis*, the sonne of *Lewis* of *Nevers*, should marry *Madam Marguerite*, the second Daughter of *France*, upon condition that he should succede to the County of *Flanders* after his Grandfather and Father.

About the same time the Marriage of *Isabelle*, the third Daughter to the King, with *Guy* the *Dolphin* of *Vienna* was treated, who not long after succeeded his Father *John* in *Dauphine*. The Eldest Daughter was before married to *Odo* Duke of *Burgundy*. After that the King quitted all the actions against his Subjects, which some of his Councill in abuse of his good nature had put upon and against them. And as he was deliberating to have but one sort of weights and measures, in one and the same

same *species*, and also a certaine rate and value of monies, a malady intercepted his designs, by which hee ended his dayes the third of *January, An. Dom. 1322.*

He was a Prince of a tractable disposition, and therefore easily corrupted; inclined more to ill than good. The chiefest thing worthy remembrance in his Reigne was, that his bad servants presuming on his gentle Nature, layd heavy taxations on the people, who thereupon maintained, and thus hee suffering his Authority to be abus'd by them, shew'd that although hee were great and tall of stature, yet hee had but little wit and understanding. A

Benedicting Priest and Monke pretending a voyage to the East, committed many outrages in the East, with a multitude of people by them assembled, and called themselves Shepherds, untill they were defeated in *Languedoc.*

This *Philip* would have made one weight

weight and measure throughout his Realme, but it proved but an *Entopian* conceite, not to be maintained by Authority or Reason. The *Jewes* which were formerly expelled and driven out of the Kingdome, were now againe admitted; but after they endeavoured to bring in an Artificiall Plague into the Kingdome, by using the helpe of Lepers, some were grievously punished, and the rest banished out of *France*. Lastly, this Kings five yeares Reigne was *Rasa Tabula*, a blanke Table, wherein Fame hath written no Royall action.

Charles 4. *surnamed the Faire,*
the 49. King of France.
Anno 1322.



Charles the 4, Count of Marche,
 brother to Philip the Tall, and
 to Lewis Hutin, came by the
 same Law to the Crowne, as his brother
 Philip had done, who left no issue Male
 to inherit. He was crowned the twelfth
 of

of February, Anno Dom. 1322.. He was
 severe in Justice, giving every man his
 right; desirous that all should be guided
 and governed by the Lawes and Autho-
 rity of Magistrates. Following that
 Norme, he caused Jordan of L' Isle, a
 great Lord to be attached, who upon
 accusations of infinite enormities was
 attainted and convicted: wherefore hee
 was hanged, although hee had married
 the Neece of Pope John 22, and (as o-
 thers are of opinion) his Step-mother.
 About that time deceased Lewis Duke
 of Nevers, the eldest son of Robert Count
 of Flanders, who dyed immediately af-
 ter. By which occasion Robert, the
 younger sonne of the said Robert Count
 of Flanders, entred into a difference
 with his Nephew Lewis, sonne of the
 Count of Nevers: Hereupon the cause
 was pleaded in the Court of Parlia-
 ment, which proved of no validity to
 the good of the Nephew.

Then began the Warres betweene the
 English and French, Anno Dom. 1324,
 Q 3 upon

upon the occasion that the Lord of *Montpesac* would, to the Kings prejudice, fortifie a Castle in *Gascegne*, upon the borders of *France*. Whereupon the King sent *Charles* of *Valois*, his Unkle, who so happily acquitted himselfe of his charge, that hee recovered into the Kings powers all the Townes and strong holds in *Burgundy*, which are beyond the River *Garonne*, except *Bourdeaux*, *Bayonne*, and *S. Senes*. Afterwards having obtained a Truce of the *English*, he dyed in *December*, *An. Dom.* 1325, as also the King deceased at *Bois de Vincennes*, the first of *March*, leaving *Madame Joane de Eureux* his wife great with Child, who afterwards in the Moneth of *April*, 1328. was delivered of a Daughter called *Blanche*. Hee was the first King that ever permitted to the Pope the Decimations of the Churches of *France*.

This King reigned sixe yeares, being wise, temperate, and just, three chiefe vertues in a Prince, but unhappy in his progeny.

progeny. Assoone as he was annoited, he held a great Sessions in *Paris*, to heare complaints, and caused many Gentlemen to be punished, in which number was one *Jourdain* of *Lisle*, a *Gascon*, who being Nephew to Pope *John* the 22, had beene pardoned for eighteene capitall crimes, and yet still grew more impious, former mercy making him presume more of pardon, untill at last he was taken, and brought to *Paris*, where King *Charles* caused him justly to be hang'd, as a memorable example, that Respect is an enemy to Justice, which must be executed without sparing the guilty. To conclude, this Prince was worthy of the *French* Monarchy, and deserved to be reckon'd amongst the chiefeest men of State. And as the Kingdome was happy in having so worthy and sufficient a King, so his short Reigne deprived the Realme of that good which it should receive by his government. But the best and most perfect men, are in the blind world either

despised for excesse of good, or some tooke away by death, to envy greater happinesse, equall to their desert.

Philip of Valois the 6. and 50.
King of France.
Anno 1327.



His Philip Count of Valois, the Sonne of the late Count Charles, and Cousen german to the three pre-

precedent Kings, succeeded to the Crowne by title of his favour, excluding Lewis of Evreux his Vncle (who at that time, as it is thought was already dead) and was confirmed by the States, notwithstanding that Edward King of England pretended the Crowne by his Mothers right, who was the onely daughter of Philip the Faire. He recovered a faire battaile against the Flemings, who had revolted against their Duke, and enforced the King of England to doe homage for the Dutchy of Guienne, and other lands which he held of the Crowne; who in revenge thereof entertained Robert of Artois, Count of Beaumont, who was banished out of France through a false accusation; by whose perswasion the King of England beeing allyed to all the Princes of the Empire, whereof hee had already obtained the Vicariate, beganne to warre against Philip in Nantonge, Anno Domini 1336. Afterwards he caused the Flemings to revolt against their Duke, by the means of

of one *James Artivel*, an *Artisan*. The *French* that were in the Towne of *L'Isle*, and first discomfited the *English* and *Flemings*, but afterwards they were shamefully overthrowne at the *Sluce* Port, when they laboured to hinder the *English* from joyning with the *Flemings*. And after this victory he encamped before *Tournay*, where he continued during fifty dayes; during which time, the Mother of the Count of *Hainault*, wrought a Truce between the Kings of *England* and *France*, which continued not long, because the warres were renewed shortly after betweene them, because the King of *France* caused *Oliver de Clisson* to bee executed for Treason: In which warre the *French* lost the memorable battaile of *Crecy*, neare *Abeville*, wherein the greatest part of the Nobility and flower of all *France* was slaine, and the Towne of *Calais* taken. After this, the King having married in a second wedlocke the Lady *Blanche*, daughter of the late *Philip*, King of *Navarre*,

Navarre, and received the *Danphinate* of *Humbert*, together with the City and Countrey of *Montpelier*, for a purchase of the King of *Maillorque*, he retired to *Nogent*, there to conclude his daies the 23. or 28. of *August* 1350. leaving *John* Duke of *Normandy*, and *Philip* Duke of *Orleans*.

He was an ingenious wity Prince, as appeareth by his justification of the *Salique* Law, by these words of Scripture. Consider the Lillies of the field, how they doe grow, and doe neither labour nor spiune: intimating (whose Armes are Lillies or *Flower de Lyces*) should not fall to the Distaffe. Also he taxed the unfaithfulnesse of King *Edward* of *England*, in these two Verses by himselfe composed.

Anglicus Angelus est, cui nunquam credere fas est.
Dum tibi dicit Ave, tanquam ab hoste cave.

*The Englishman an Angell is, which
trusted will deceive thee;
Beware of him as of a Foe, when he doth
say God save thee.*

After his marriage with *Blanch*, daughter of *Philip* of *Eureux*, he lived not long after he had tyed this knot, this new wife being an unnecessary trouble in his old age; so that sickning at *Nogent*, advising his two sonnes to live in peace, and bee carefull of the Realme, which he resigned to the eldest, he concluded his reigne, and dyed. He was a King in whom vertues and vices were equally mingled; for he was valiant in danger, and couragious in affliction, just and loving to his subjects. But his rash valour, whereon hee presumed often, engaged him and his subjects in many miseries.

• Edward

*Edward the third, King of England.
Anno 1351.*



His King comes here to be inserted amongst the Kings of *France*, being the first that left the Title Hereditary to the Kings of *England*, and first quartered the Armes of *France* with the *English* Armes, giving thereby occasion and provocation of

of his succeeding Warres, he obtained a gentle victory at *Sluce*, upon Midsummer day in a sea fight : Afterward he challenged *Philip of Valois*, then King, to a single combate, by him not accepted, afterwards makes a Truce with *France*, their battailes being ready to joyne in *Britagne* in *France*, then he declares the Truce with *France* broken. He arrives afterward in *France* with bloody Colours, with his hopefull son the Prince of *Wales*, then about sixteen yeares old. Afterward he got the *Lam-rell* wreath of Conquest in the battaile of *Cressy*; and his sonne was as victorious as his Father, both sharing equally in honour purchased by valour. But his sonne afterward, whose veines were full of his Fathers Spirit and fortitude, shewing that *Nasci a Principibus est magnum*, obtained another triumphant victory against the *French* at *Poitiers*, and by it confirmed his Fathers achievements.

Then againe *Henry* invaded *France*,
 betwixt

besieges *Paris*, concludes a peace: King *John* of *France* being taken prisoner, and afterward ransomed, hostages were also given, and so the Clouds of warre were a while drawne away : but suddenly againe *France* felt a new storme from *England*; for the Earle of *Blois* slaine in Battaile by the *English*, loseth the Dukedome of *Britagne*. Then againe King *Edward* sends *John* Duke of *Lancaster* to invade *France*, and Sir *Robert* *Knoles* to the parts about *Britagne*: and thus, as he was famous for his many other Royall vertues expressed done at home, and in the circumference of his owne Dominions, so likewise he appeared in *France* like a flaming Comet, which boded the effusion of much *French* blood: But age & sicknesse comming on hee was faine to leave the world, as the same did him before his breath left him : but Nature could not hold out any longer, and he was forced to resigne his life into the hands of his Creator at *Shene*, (now

Rich-

Richmond) the one and twentieth day of *Iune*, *Anno Domini* 1377. in the 64. yeare of his Age, having reigned fifty yeaes, foure moneths, and odde dayes; in which time *France* felt the desolation which warre had made, he carrying away the never dying Fame of a valiant Conquerour, he lyeth buried at *Westminster*, for as much of him as was Mortall; but *Multum sui vitabit Libitinam*, his senle and Fame are immortall in Heaven and on earth, and was especially famous for Conquering *France*, and writing himselfe, *Roy de Angle terre & France*, *King of England and France*.

Philip

John I. or the second of that name, the 51. King of France. *Anno*, 1350.



JOH N the first, or second of that Name, succeeded to the Crown, and was consecrated at *Rheims* the 26. of *Septem. An Dom.* 1350 In the beginning of his reigne hee caused the Lord *Ralph* of *Nesle*, Cōstable of *France*, to be beheaded for Treason, and in his
R place

place hee instituted *Charles of Spaine*, Count of *Angolessme*. The Truce being broken betweene him and *England*, he betooke him to *S. John d' Angely*, and in his returne he instituted the Order of the *Starre* in the Noble and Royall House or *S. Owen*. Afterwards *Charles King of Navarre*, caused the Constable to be massacred upon a jealousy which hee had conceived against him, on the sixt of *January*, 1353, and the Lord *James de Bourbon* was substituted in his place. In the meane time the King of *Navarre*, whom the King of *France* had pardoned, instead of acknowledging his fault, plotted against the State of the said King, which being discovered, he entred into an Amity with the King of *England*. By meanes whereof King *Iohn* having surprised him, sent him prisoner to *Paris*. Hereupon *Philip of Navarre*, his brother, in an indignation caused the *English* to come into *Normandy*, against whom the King intending an opposition, was enforced

to turne it upon the Prince of *Wales* in *Poitou*, where having lost the field through his temerity, hee was taken Prisoner. In the meane time the *Parisians* at the perswasion of *Stephen Martel*, mutinyed against the *Dauphin*, who tooke upon him the Regency of the Realme, and appeased the tumult, having first restored the places of *Normandy* to the King of *Navarre*, who had escaped out of prison.

Afterwards upon a treaty made at *Bretigny* the eight of *May*, 1360, a peace was concluded with the *English*, and ratified at *Calais* the 24. of *October*. In the meane time *Philip*, Duke of *Burgundy*, deceased at *Roucere* neere *Dijon* without issue, by reason whereof *Iohn* the King declared himselfe to be his Heire. After that he making a preparation for a beyond-sea voyage, first came to *London*, intending to make a strong peace with *England*, and dyed there the eighth or ninth of *April*, 1364, leaving *Charles* the *Dauphin*, *Lewis*

Duke of *Anjou*, John Duke of *Berry*, and *Philip Hardy* Duke of *Burgundy*.

This King shewed magnanimity in his most adverse fortune; for *Apparet virtus arguiturq; malis*:

Vertue will apparent be

In the depth of adversity.

which was verified in this King *John*, who sitting in the English Campe at a Supper, prepared for him by the Prince of *Wales*, who had taken him prisoner in the Battell of *Poitiers*, said, I purposed to have bestowed a Supper on you this night, but the fortune of the War hath made me your Guest. The Englishmen for a summe of money having got by composition the Castle and Towne of *Gwines*, King *John* complaining to the King of *England*, that the Truce was broken, contrary to their compact and agreement, King *Edward* answered, That Trafficke or Merchandise, the surrender of the Castle being by money procured, did not breake the former Truce.

This

This King, when King *Edward* required homage for the Realme of *France*, as held of *England*, answered, that hee could not justly alienate a right inalienable, received from his Ancestors, and therefore he resolved to leave it entire to his children, for affliction might engage his person, but not the Crowne of *France*, while hee was King, who would sacrifice his life for the preservation of *France*. Hee dyed in *England* Anno 1364, being a good Prince, but unfortunate; wise in ordinary matters, but not in great affaires; just, but too confident in trusting others; temperate in his private life, but violent in the publicke government. For great vertues meeting with Wisdome, doe on the Theater of this life give unto Kings a Crowne of applause and commendation.

R. 3

Charles

Charles 5. surnamed the Wise, the
52. King of France. An. 1364.



After the decease of *John* the first, this *Charles 5.* surnamed the Wise, was crowned the 19. of March, Anno Dom. 1364. At the comming to the Crowne, hee gained against those of *Navarre* a very memorable victory under the Conduct of the Lord

Lord *Bertrand du Guesclin*, in favour whereof he gave him the Dukedome of *Longueville*. From thence the said *Guesclin* went to aide *Charles of Blois*, against whom *John of Monfort* relying upon the English, had begun warres for the Dutchy of *Bretagne*, where he was taken fighting valiantly before the Castle of *Aulroy*, against *John Lord Chandos*, High Marshall of *England*: but a peace being made betweene the Duke of *Monfort* and the Countesse of *Blois*, the King likewise made a peace with those of *Navarre*, and after sent *Guesclin* to ayde *Peter King of Arragon*, against *Peter King of Castile* in favour of *Henry*, *Sancho* and *Telco* his naturall brothers; and also in revenge of the death of his Wife *Blanche*, the daughter of the Duke of *Bourbon*, whom hee had caused to be slaine. *Peter of Castile* being deposed of his kingdome, and *Henry* substituted, hee retired to the *Prince of Wales*, who restored him to his former estate.

After returning into *Guienne*, he imposed upon his Subjects unaccustomed taxations and imposts, which caused the Lords of *Armaignac* and of *Albert* to appeale to the King of *France*, as to their Sovereigne Lord, which was a cause that moved *Charles* to give an eare to *Henry*, who offered to hold his kingdome of *Castile* from him, so that hee would ayde him in the re-conquest thereof. Whereupon the King sent him *Guesclin*, who gained fixe battells against his Enemy, and in the sixt *Peter* of *Castile* was taken by the Lord *de Villaines*, a *French Knight*, of whom *Henry* ransomed him, and put him to death, enjoying by that meanes the kingdome of *Castile*.

In the meane time, because the King embraced the appeale of the Lords of *Gascogne*, the Prince of *Wales* denounced warre against him, which the King managed so well by the assistance of his brothers, that repairing the losses of his Father and Grandfather received by the

the English, hee reconquered *Guienne*, *Poitou*, and *Bretagne*, and deceased in September, *Anno Dom.* 1380, leaving *Charles* and *Lewis* under the tuition of their Unkles.

This King had many vertues, shining in all estates, both in happinesse and adversity, and when the Realme was in the heate of troubles, he saved it from ruine, so that his fame was spread abroad, leaving an honourable remembrance to his posterity. Hee favoured Learning and the learned, preferring the Schoolemaster *Nicholas Oresme*: He caused the Bible to be translated, imitating therein *St. Lewis*, and tooke great delight to read the Scripture and Philosophy, and he made *Aristotles Ethicks* and *Politicks*, and many places of *Tully* to be translated into *French*; and his favour shewed to learned men, cherished their fancies, and made them seeke unto the forsaken *Muses* for witty inventions. Hee would heare Suits in open Court, and redresse the wrongs
of

of the oppressed, and tooke pleasure to advance his household servants, and gave them meanes for bringing up their sons, and marrying their daughters : And as he was a favourer of Learning, so *Bartholl, Baldus, Petrarch, Bociac, Plorindes, Bonaventure, and John Wickliffe* of Oxford in England lived in his Reigne. But Vertues are not hereditary, for *Charles* sonne to this King, degenerated from his Father, and the Kingdome of France was afterward punished in the weaknesse of the succeeding Kings, so that the confused government brought forth sad effects, such as are to bee expected where the rabble multitude have a power unrestrained by Authority, and doe swarme and rove about like unruly Bees.

Charles

Charles 6. the 53. King of France.
Anno 1380.



His *Charles 6.* about the age of 14. yeares, was crowned the first of November, Anno. Dom. 1380. In the beginning of his Reigne hee received homage for the Dutchy of *Bretagne*, and enforced the *Gaulois* to their obedience to their Duke ; as also he

he chastised the *Parisians*, who had mur-
tyned about imposts, having Mallets
as a token of their faction, whereupon
they were called *Maillotins*. In the
meane time *Peter d: Craon* wounded
Cliffon Constable of *France*, whereof
the King intending a revenge, fell into
a frensie, by reason whereof the king-
dome was put into the hands of the
Dukes of *Berry* and *Burgundy*, who
laying hands upon *Cliffon*, by an Act of
Parlement, caused him to be depri-
ved of his estate, and banished the king-
dome.

The King of *England* married the
Lady *Isabell*, the eldest Daughter to
Charles, whereupon a Truce was con-
cluded betweene the *English* and *French*
for Thirty yeares. But King *Richard*
being afterward slaine, shee was sent
backe into *France* without a Dowry;
by reason whereof the Duke of *Orleans*
presented a combate of seven *French* a-
gainst seven *English* within the lists,
which combate the *French* gained. Then
also

also upon some rancors and dissentions
betweene the houses of *Burgundy* and
Orleans for the government of the
Kingdome, *John* the eldest sonne of
the late Count of *Burgundy*, caused the
Duke of *Orleans*, brother to the King,
to be slaine the 22. of *November*, 1407,
whercupon ensued all the subsequent
disorders in *France*, by meanes where-
of the King of *England* gained the fa-
mous and memorable battaile of *Agin-
court*, and continued his warres for the
space of 29. or 30. yeares, during
which he tooke *Rouen*, and in a man-
ner all *Normandy*. In those times also
the Duke of *Burgundy* was slaine at a
Parlement upon the Bridge of *Monte-
reau Faux-yonne*, by those that accom-
panied the *Dauphine*, who for that fact
was by his Father *Charles*, not yet in
sense, dis-inherited, and in his place he
instituted *Henry* King of *England*, to
whom upon a peace hee had given in
marriage *Katherine* of *France*, together
with the government of *France* and
Paris.

Paris, making warres against the *Dauphin* untill death, which was followed with that of the King, who had before given consent to the Duke of *Bedford*, to be Regent in *France* for young King *Henry*, who was yet in his Cradle.

This *Charles* the 6. was of a magnanimous and Heroick soule, full of the fire of true valour, which upon any brave occasion broke forth in glorious actions: which vertue was declared in his younger yeares by this answer to his Father *Charles* the fifth, by whom a Crowne of Gold enchased with precious Stones, and a Helmet of Steele fairely gilt, being propounded to his choise, hee answered hee would rather chuse the Helmet than the Crowne. Afterward being crowned King of *France*, this Sonne of valour rising in the spheare of Majesty, shined forth with early beames of valour; for being shewed by his Officers, his deceased Fathers rich Treasury and precious moveables, and also his Armory full of warlike Furniture,

ture, and all sorts of Armes, hee said, He had rather have those Armes, than his Fathers Riches. As this King and his Noblemen marched against the Duke of *Britaine*, being entred the Forrest of *Mans*, a man bare-headed and bare-legged, attired in a Coate of white Rugge, steps suddainly forth betwixt two Trees, taking hold of the Raines of the Kings Horse, and staying him, said unto him: King ride no farther, but returne backe, for thou art betrayed: The King was amazed at this voice, and the man being forced with blowes to leave the Raines of his Horse, vanished. Afterward it chanced that his Page being very sleepy, let fall his Lance upon him which carryed the Helmet, making a great noise like the rustling of Armes, the King starts with amazement at this noise, and seeing the Crimson Bandroll of the Lance, having his spirits weakened with the former distempers, transported with the imagination of this sound, sleepy with labour and

and heate, he imagins himselfe to be compassed in with many armed men which pursu'd him to the death. *Charles* thus transported with this phrenzy, layes hold on his Sword, drawes it, runnes violently after his Pages, and calls them Traytors. The Pages conceiving at first that hee had beene displeased for the disorder of the Lance, flye from him : The King follows after : The Duke of *Orleance* runnes towards him to let him know the cause of his anger. The King very violently layes at him, not knowing him ; the Duke flyes, and the King follows. Thereupon all drawing neare unto him, they take his Sword from him, and his thick Velvet Jerkin, and scarlet Cap, and lay him on the ground.

Pope *Urban* his Enemy, triumphing and rejoycing at his misery, said it was a just judgment of God for supporting and assisting his Competitor : But the holy Scripture sayes, *O how happy*

happy is he that judgeth wisely of the afflicted, representing an admirable example in *Job*, who was accused by his friends that hee was an hypocrite, good in shew, but not in integrity of life. Such is the judgment of the World, accounting adversity a vice, and prosperity a vertue, measuring matters according to their passions, and not with reason ; for **G O D S** Judgments are just and righteous, but the causes thereof are unknowne, though **G O D** doth all well whatsoever he doth.

Henry the fifth, King of England.
Anno 1412.



THough it be more easie to succeed in victoryes, than atchieve them, yet this *Henry* maintained by the sword that Title of King of *France*, which his Predecessor, *Edward* the third had gained; and as King *Edward* cut down the Flower of *France* in

in the Battaille of *Cresssey*, so *Henry* the fift, exasperated by the *Dolpins* of *France*, sending him a Tunne of Tennis Balls, sent him backe such Iron Balls, or Bullers, that the *French* were neare brought to a great hazzard in this Tennis Court, or field of *Mars*. For hereby *Henry* wome *France*, teaching Princes, that contempt addes a double courage, when right is by contumelies fought with greater violence.

Afterward King *Henry* tooke *Harroflew*, and fought the memorable battaille of *Agincourt*, wherein hee got a wonderfull and unexpected victory, by a stratagem of erecting sharpe Stakes before the foote troopes, whereupon the Horse issuing violently, they were disfranked and routed, so that the earth blush't with blood to see the *French* so overtaken, and also the Archers upon the nicke of this opportunity sent many showres of Arrowes, whereby the whole Army on the *French* side was discomfited; and the English Archers

giving backe, the French Horsemen ran themselves upon the sharpe poynted stakes. At last the French maine Battaille was put to flight, and then King Henry gave thanks unto God, the giver of all victoryes.

This Battaille was famous, triumphant, and fortunate ; the successe whereof was celebrated with great joy at the Kings returne into *England*; Princes being then most amiable (as well as private men) in the sight of their subjects, when Fortune smiles on their attempts : and Victories, such as this was at *Poitiers*, makes their vertues more apparant.

Afterward, Truce being made with the French, and by them broken, hee invades *France* againe, and takes the Towne of *Harflew* in *Normandy*, and *Cane*. Then proceeding in his Conquest of *Normandy*, takes *Fallais*, after a long siege, and Articles of agreement confirmed by the King, he besieges also *Roane*, and the Lady *Katharines* Picture was

was sent to King Henry, to move him to pittie *Roane* : Hee grants them peace, and receives of the Burgesses of *Roane* 356000. Crownes of gold, upon the sixteenth of June, Anno Domini 1418.

Afterward many Townes were surrendered to Henry : At last a peace was concluded betweene King Henry, and King Charles, and the Duke of *Burgogne*. Afterward Henry goes in person to *Trois*. where he was met by John King of *France*, the Queene, and the Lady *Katharine*, to whom hee] was contracted, and by their marriage peace was established in *France*, and the Crowne of *France* was entailed to *England*; and the Subjects of *France* were sworne to duty of allegiance unto King Henry ; as also the two Crownes of *England* and *France*, were united and confirmed to King Henry, by his marrying the Lady *Katherine* ; for marryages have alwayes beene the happy conclusions of Tragi-

call Warres, as may appeare by happy marriage.

Afterward the French growing rebellious, King *Henry* besieges *Paris*, and takes it. *Bicardy* afterward sweares fealty and obedience to King *Hen.* Matters being settled, all the Warres was concluded with joyfull Solemnities at the marriage of King *Henry* and the Lady *Katharine*, with whom he returned afterward into *England*, where every Subject exprest his love and loyalty to him, each one contending, who should be the forwardest for the entertaining of so Noble and victorious a Prince, and his most Royall Consort.

Afterward King *Henry* being at the siege of *Meaux*, his wife was delivered of *Henry* of *Munmouth*, his last joy on earth; for not long after sickning at *Melun*, and his malady encreasing at *Bois De vincennois*, hee cheerefully rendred his Soule to GOD, who received him to immortall joy, where
he

he remains Crowned with Cælestiall glory, while his body being convey-ed into *England*, was with all pompous Celebrity interred in the Church at *Westminster*, where on his Tombe are ingraven these Verses.

*Dux Normanorum, verus Conquestor eorum,
Heres Francorum, decesset & Hector eorum.*

*Here Normans Duke, so stil'd by Conquest just,
True heire of France, great Hector lyes in Dust.*

Charles 7. the 54. King of France.
Anno 1422.



After the decease of *Charles* the 6,
Charles 7. his sonne, began to
style himselfe King of *France*,
notwithstanding that his Father had
dis-inherited him, and given it to
Henry King of *England*. In the begin-
ning of his Reigne having made Count
Arthur

Arthur, brother to the Duke of *Bre-
tagne*, High Constable of *France*, sent
him against the *English*, who in a man-
ner were Masters of all *France*, and had
now beleaguered *Orleans* contrary to
their promise made to their Duke, who
at that time was prisoner in *England*:
whereupon the King sent the Count of
Dunois, the Bastard of *Orleans*, *Pothon*,
Hire, all valiant Commanders to relieve
it. At that time the *French* lost the
Battaile of *Harens*: whereupon the
King being enraged, and not knowing
which way best to betake himselfe, was
encouraged by *Joane* the Maid, who
miraculously drove the *English* from
before *Orleance*: and having recovered
many lost Townes, and gained the
battaile neare *Pataz*, and conveyed the
King to be crowned at *Rheims*, but up-
on a Sally which she made out of *Cham-
pagne* upon the *English*, she was taken,
and put to death at *Rouen*.

In the end a peace being made be-
tweene the Duke of *Burgundy* and the
King

King of *France*, they first drove the *English* out of *Paris*, nineteene yeares after their enjoying it, into which the King made his entry the twelfth of *November*, *Anno Domini* 1437, to equall which there presently ensued the *Praguery* Faction. The quarrells also of the Houses of *Orleanse* and *Burgundy* were extinguished by the Marriage of *Charles* Duke of *Orleanse*, with *Mary* of *Cleue*, neare to the Duke of *Burgundy*: The *English* also lived promiscuously with the *French*, but the Truce being broken by an English Captaine, who took in the Castle of *Fougeres*, the King employed his uttermost to quit *France* of all the *English*: and thereupon hee to this d^e-signe appointed his *Franc-archers* or *Boemen*, and began with *Normandy*, which he reduced wholly to his obedience: after that *Guienne* and the Citty of *Bourdeaux*, insomuch that the *English* could retaine nothing on that side the Seas, but *Cales* and the County of *Guignes*. The King enjoying

joying this repose of peace, was much troubled with the absence of the *Dauphin*, who for fixe yeares had betaken himselfe to the Duke of *Burgundy*, and thence into *Brabant*, where hee remained till his Fathers decease, which was the 22. of *July*, *Anno Dom.* 1461.

This King being unfortunate in his Warres, grew so behind hand both in fame and estate, that amongst other afflictions, hee was burthened with reproach and poverty, so that he dined in his Chamber, attended on by his household servants, where *Pothon* and *la Hire* comming to *Chusteandun* to require succours, found him at Table with a Rumpe of Mutton and two Chickens. He was reproached for the love of faire *Agnes*, but the History of *St. Dennis* reports, that hee loved her onely for her pleasing behaviour, eloquent speech, and beauty, and that he never used any lascivious action unto her, nor never touched her beneath the chinne. *Joane* a Virgin, or rather Witch,

Witch, professing that she had a Revelation how to succour the King, and chase the English from *Orleance*, was brought by the Lord of *Bandie Court*, Provost of *Vancoleurs* to *Chinon*, attired like a man. The King takes upon him the habite of a Countryman, yet shee goes directly to the King, although they told her shee was mistaken. Shee had Armes and Horse given her, with a Troope to enter the City, accompanied by the Admirall and Martiall of *France* : Shee comes to *Orleance*, they rejoyce to behold the Maiden Warriour, whereupon *Joane* sends threats to the English by Letter, subscribed, Vnderstand these Newes from God and from the Virgin. *Orleance* was assaulted by her counsell : The Virgin entred the Fort first, crying, *Montjoy St. Dennis, the Fort is wonne*. The English grew amazed at the Virgins exploits : In memory whereof a Monument was erected ; King *Charles* the seventh armed, and *Joane* the Virgin armed,

armed, kneeling on their knees before a Crucifixe of Brasse, which is still to be seen upon the Bridge at *Orleance*.

Lewis the 11. and 55. King of France.
Anno. 1461.



Lewis the 11. departing out of *Brabant*, being accompanied with the Duke, *Philip* of *Burgundy*, and the Count of *Charolois* his sonne,

sonne, caused himselfe to be crowned King of *France*; the fifteenth of *August* 1461. The Princes seeing themselves in contempt, especially *Mounfier Charles* his brother, who rose up in Armes against him, under a pretensive colour for the common good, giving him the famous battaile of *Montlebery*, the fifteenth of *Iuly*, Anno Domini 1463. The King for the dissipating of their forces, following the advise of the Duke of *Milan*, gave *Normandy* to his brother, which afterwards by subtilties he withdrew from him againe. But in the end hee was enforced by the Duke of *Burgundy* to give unto his brother *Mounfier Charles* the Counties of *Champagne* and *Brie*, which hee afterward exchanged for the Dutchy of *Guienne*, by this meanes to weane him from the Duke of *Burgundy*, recalling all the Townes upon this side the River *Somme*; and afterwards against his brother *Charles*, for the withdrawing of the Dutchy of *Guienne*, who immediately

ately dyed, not without suspicion of poyson. Afterwards he made a treaty of peace at *Bouvines*, with the Dukes of *Bretagne* and *Burgundy* for the ensnaring of the High Constable *S. Paul*, who had beene the prime sparke of all the dissentions after the battaile of *Montlebery*. In the meane time the King works the Duke of *Burgundy* quite out with the Emperour *Fredericke*, and with the Duke of *Lorraine*, working his ruine at the siege of *Mus*. Then he takes in many Townes of the *Burgundion*, who had appealed to the *English* for aide, with whom the King had already made a treaty of *Piquigny*, by which *Charles* the Kings sonne was to marry with the daughter of *England*, when they came to be of age; which constrained the *Burgundion* to make his peace with the King, and to deliver the High Constable into his power. The Duke of *Burgundy* was slaine before *Nancy*, leaving one sole Daughter *Mary*, who was married to *Maximilian*, the onely son of

of the Emperour *Fredericke*; by reason whereof the King recovered all the Countrey upon the *Somme*, together with the Dutchy and County of *Burgundy*. But afterwards the Prince of *Orange* caused the *Franch-Conite* to revolt. After this the King allyed himselfe to the *Swisses*, and recovered the County of *Provence*, from *Renatus* Duke of *Anion*, by way of Donation. The K. afterwards having married his son *Charles* to the Lady *Marguerite* of *Flanders*, hee surrendered his life the 30 of *Aug.* 1483.

Hee said that *Charles* the sage might be a wise man in his Tiring-Chamber, or Closet, but in giving his youngest brother the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, hee played the fooles part. Being told after a battaile, that his enemy Count *Charolois* did lodge in the field: He replied, That he having neither Towne nor Castle must needs lodge in a field-bed. It was his usuall saying: That when pride walketh, or rideth afore, shame and dishonour, like servingmen,
Pre-

attend behind. Being told that one of the Canons of the Church where hee had heard Masse was dead, he gave the Prebendship to a Priest which lay sleeping in an adjoyning Chappell, that hee should say afterward, that his good fortune came unto him sleeping. To a Gentleman that was ready to handle a rich Chaîne of gold, which a Captaine wore about his neck, and was suspected to be made of the reliques of a Church, he said: Take heede how you touch that Chaîne, for it is a holy thing.

He said also, that, in regard of his troubles at the beginning of his reigne, if by the expression of courage and experience he had not procured feare and reverence, he might have beene ranked amongst the unfortunate Princes in the last Chapter of *Boccace*. A rich Nobleman having builded a faire Hospitall, he said, That having made many poore for the Hospitall, hee might justly make an Hospitall for the poore, and so convert his sinnes into Almes-houses. Hee
T would

would often say to his Noblemen, that his sonne should learne no more Latine, than *Qui nescit dissimulare, nescit regnare*; and that the government of the Kingdome and Common-wealth was his best study; for other studies would too much soften his minde, and Historicall examples, unfortunate in their event, and successe, would discourage him from attempting brave Actions. He said also that the *Genoways* should not long remaine under his protection, for he would bequeath them to the Divell. Being advised to send an Embassadour, that had many Dignities and Titles: he said he is like a peece of *Brachigraphy*, that hath many a Title but Learning very little. Being told that the Gout haunted rich men that fared deliciously, and wore fine cloathing; he said, hee would alwaies afterward weare cloath-cloathes, because the Gout should not take him for a rich man. He could finde all things he said in his Kingdome, and his Court, except truth, which was sicke
in

in his fathers time, and was now starkē dead, having before her death made no Confession to a Priest. The Realme of *France* he said was a meddow which he did cut every yeere, and as often as he list. He asking a meane fellow, which knew not the King when he saw him, what he gained by following the Court? The fellow answered, I get as much as the King, that is, maintenance while I live, and a sheete when I dye.

He said that a curious ignorant man, having a Library of faire Bookes, was like a crooke-backt man having a Bunch on his backe, whereby the deformity of the one, & the ignorance of the other was more discerned. He made gold the engine of his actions, saying, that an Army of silver Launces doth usually winne the victory. Great services (he said) through the arrogancy of the parties performing them, or the neglect of Princes regarding them, were often recompenced with hatred or ingratitude; and therefore the bounty of Princes exceeding

ceeding desert was more fortunate and happy than desert exceeding the bounty of Princes, not enduring to be indebted or obliged. Having felt the smart of the English warres, he said the King of *England* was his Brother in his owne Countrey, but hee did not like his company in *France*.

Having caused a faire goodly Tombe to bee made for the faire Lady *Agnes*, the love of his late Father, the Cannons of the Church desiring that the Monument might bee removed out of the heart of the Church into a side Ile, or Chappell, he answered, that their request was neither just nor reasonable, neither would he suffer her Tombe (whom his father loved) to be violated.

After *Monsieur Bussi* was beheaded and buried, he caused the head to be digged up againe, and placed on a wooden pole in the Market place, and so being covered with a scarlet Cappe, furred with *Minivere*, in regard he had

beene

beene a Counsellour of the Parliament. A suiter to the King for an Office, be- in denied, humbly thanked his Majesty, who wondring at his moderate, yet man-like spirit, asked if he conceived a right of his answer? yes, said the Suiter, and I thanke your Majesty for giving me a dispatching denyall, rather than feeding delays: with which Answer the King was so contented, that he had his Office immediatly granted.

A Noble-man seeing this King ride a Hunting on a very little Horse, said he had gotten a goodly stout Horse; for though he seemed but weake and little, yet he must needs be very strong, because he carryed him with all his Counsell: Thereby taxing the King, preferring the wisdom of his owne conceite before all other Counsell.

Hee demanding what present he might bestow on the English Embassadors that might not cost him much, was answered; That he might pre-

sent them with his Musitians, that so they might not cost him much, as formerly they had done.

Before the joyning of a Battaile, this King said hastily unto a Noble-man, that he had no affiance in his service: who for prooffe thereof, having desired to exchange Armes and Ensignes with the King, charged bravely on the enemy, and being supposed to be the King, was slaine: wherein the King with weeping teares sayd, he had lost his life to expresse his love and loyalty. Being informed that the *Saracens* were misreckned 10000 *Francks*, in the payment of 200000 thousand pounds for a ranfome, he would not embarke or set saile: until the aforesaid *Francks* were paid: such was his fidelity to those Infidells. This King having appoynted a Bishop to goe take a Muster of the Souldiers in *Paris*, a great Noble-man desired a Commission to reforme the Bishops Church, saying that employment was as fit for him, as the other was for the Bishop

Bishop. When this King was *Daulphin* of *France*, he taking great pleasure in hunting, often resorted to a poore Forresters Cottage, where he did use to eate Radishes, he comming to be King, the Forrester perswaded by his Wife, & in hope of reward, presented to the King a faire Radish, which his Majesty accepted, and rewarded the Forrester with a thousand Crownes. Afterward a Courtier presented the King with a faire goodly Horse, expecting a greater reward, because he had beene so bountifull to the Forrester. But the King contrary to his expectation, gave the Courtier his Radish, wrapped up in white paper; the Courtier returning to his lodging, opening the packet, found nothing but a Radish, whereupon he informed the King of the mistake, as he supposed: The King said, I have paide thee well for thy horse: for the present which I gave thee cost mee a thousand Crownes; thus the poore mans good affection was wel rewarded,

and the Courtiers audaciousnesse slightly regarded.

This *Lewis* sends an Embassadour to the Emperour, to excuse him for not sending an army, promised by treaty, entreating him not to make a greement with the Duke of *Burgogne*; but that he should confiscate all the Dukes Signories that held of the Emperour, as hee would doe those that held of the Crowne of *France*: The Emperour answered, that they must not divide the Beares skinne before the Beast be dead. This King comming to an interview of the King of *Castile*, unto whom hee was formerly strickly allyed, conceived a contempt and disdaine each of other: The *French* of the *Castilians* sumptuousnesse and pride, in their words, countenance and apparrell: The *Castilians* of the plainnesse of the *French* attire: So as from that day these Kings did never love, and the *French* did ever since hate the *Spaniard*.

Charles

Charles 8. the 56. King of France.
Anno 1483.



CHARLES the 8. at the age of 13. yeares came to the Crowne, under the Regency of *Madam de Beavien* his owne Sister, and of the Duke of *Bourbon* her Husband: whereupon the Duke of *Orleance*, the nearest to the Crowne, and had married his other

other Sister, as in an indignity conceived, convoked and summoned all the Statesmen to *Tours*. In the meane time the Duke of *Orleance* seeing that *Madam of Beavieu* managed all the affaires of the kingdome, retired himselfe into *Bretagne*; whereupon the King made Warre against him, and recovered a Battaille against him at *St. Albins*, the Duke of *Orleance*, and the Prince of *Orange* being taken Prisoners. After this the Duke of *Bretagne* deceased, leaving his sole Daughter *Anne* Inheretrix: who notwithstanding that she had made a promise to *Maximilian*, King of the *Romans*, was after married to the King, for which cause the King of *England* made a preparation for Warre against him in the behalfe of *Maximilian*, but it was concluded that the King should send backe the Princesse *Marguerite* with her Dowry of the Countries of *Artois* and *Burgundy*. After having surrendred the County of *Roussillon* to the Spaniard by the perswasion of his Confes-

Confessour, he went upon the recovery of the succession which *Renatus*, the late King of *Sicily*, and *Charles* the Count of *Maine* his brother, had left unto him by Will, for the rights which they pretended to the kingdome of *Naples*.

In his journey hee was Regally entertained by *Ludovicus Sforza*, surnamed the *Moore*, in the Towne of *Ast*: and after having proceeded into *Tuscany*, by *Peter de Medicis*, who delivered into his command the Fortresses of *Florence* and the City of *Pisa*: From thence hee went to *Rome*, where *nolens volens*, he entered, *Alexander 6.* being then Pope, who working his peace with him, gave him the Title of Emperour of *Constantinople*, and invested him to the kingdome of *Naples*: whither the King having made his entrance the 12. of *May*, Anno Dom. 1495, hee was crowned King of *Sicily*. Whereupon the Monarchs and Potentates of *Italy* being amazed, intended him an Ambuscade in

in his returne at *Fournone*; but the King passing another way, escaped the plot, and came safe into *France*: where having intelligence of the losse of *Naples*, and intending a second voyage thither for the recovery of his losses, dyed of an Apoplexy, as hee was seeing a Game at Tennis in the Castle of *Amboise*, the seventh of *April*, *Anno Domini* 1498.

This King among other facetious sayings, gave the *Florentine* Embassadors this merry Answer, denoting their unfaithfulnesse, in these two *Italian* Verses:

*Concortesia e fede poca
Va a Florence vender loca.*

(*Sale,*
*To Florence he went of his Goose to make
Without any faith or courtesie at all.*

which Verses were formerly made on this occasion: A Countrey Pefant sold a fat Goose to a faire Dame of *Florence*, for the fond satisfaction of Venery, but after-

afterward on colder thoughts growing wiser, this piece of leatherne ignorance, contrary to his former agreement, without either fidelity or courtesie, demanded the price of his Goose in the presence of her Husband, and made her, for the former sawce of the Goose, pay him againe. And with this *Italian* Proverb, which had this wanton Originall, the King answered the unfaithfull Embassadors of *Florence*. His Queene *Anne* having received tidings of his Death, said; Gods will be done, I doubt not but I shall be as great as I was before, intimating thereby her hopes to be Queene of *France*; afterwards verified by her Marriage with King *Lewis* the twelfth. Friar *Jerosine Savonarola* living at *Florence*, foretold in his Sermons that this King should come into *Italy*, and obtaine great victories, which fell out accordingly; and in those Warres nothing was gained but a stinking contagious disease, afterwards spread over all *France*, and since

since then called the *French Poxe*. After this King had ended his warres, he builded a Castle at *Ambois*, not knowing that instead of a stately Palace, hee should end his life in a base and filthy Gallery. He intending to reforme his life, it chanced the seventh of *April*, going after with the Queene into the Castle-ditches, hee strooke his forehead against the doore of a Gallery, whereas he meant to see a set at Tennis. This blow driving him to the premeditation of his approaching end, hee said to his Confessour, that hee would never commit any mortall or veniall sin, if he could avoide it, which was a good reservation: upon this protestation hee fell backward into an *Apoplexy*, where-with he had beene troubled, and dyed about 11. a clocke at night, in a Chamber neare to a Gallery, stinking with the urine which every one made as he passed through it, being laid on a Matresse, such as they could finde by chance. In him the direct Line failed, and the Crowne came

came to the Collaterall Line, the nearest whereof was *Lewis Duke of Orleans*, and *Valois* his Successor.

Lewis 12. the 57. King of France.

Anno 1499.



His *Lewis* the 12. succeeded according to the Custome of *France*, to *Charles* the 8, who dyed without issue, and was crowned the

the 27. of May. Hee repudiated the Lady *Joane of France* for her indisposition of conception, and married the Lady *Anne of Bretagne*, Widow to the late King. Afterwards having made sure of *Milan*, *Genes*, and *Lombardy*, by the taking of *Ludovicus Sforza*, hee made an accord with the King of *Spaine*, with whom hee conquered the Kingdome of *Naples*, which was after lost by the *French* through the infidelity and perfidious treachery of the *Spaniard*. Whereupon the King having yeelded his claime and part that he pretended to it, unto *Ferdinand* King of *Aragon*, in favour of the Marriage of *Madame Germaine de Foix*, his owne Sisters Daughter, and makes an agreement with the Pope against the *Venetians*, against whom hee gained a battaile the 15. of May, Anno Dom. 1509, without any assistance of the Truce. Hee withstood the Pope, who declared himselfe an Enemy to the *French*, and he tooke many places in the Dutchy of *Ferrara*, which

which gave an occasion to the Duke to recover what he had lost: as also *Gaston de Foix* raised the Popes Army from before *Bologna*, and relieved the City of *Brescia*, which the *Venetians* had now beleaguered; and having defeated their Army, from thence he went to hazard his life before *Ravenna*, having first wonne the field. The Lord of *Palisse* was substituted in his place as Commander, who sacked it. Whereupon the Emperour and the Pope joyning with the English, recovered many Townes upon the *French*, and the *Spaniard* re-entered into the kingdome of *Naples*. VVhereupon King *Lewis* being moved, sent the Duke of *Longueville* with an Army to re-estate the King of *Navarre* into his Kingdome: but hee was constrained to returne without any effect, which was a cause that the King being desirous to re-enter his Dutchy of *Milan*, accorded with the *Spaniard* and the *Venetian*, and after sent the Lord of *Tremoville* with his Army into

V Italy,

Italy, whence he was beaten out by the *Swisses*. In the meane time the King of *England* besieged *Therouenne*, where was fought the battaile of *Esperons*, after which King *Lewis* being a widower, married with the Daughter of the King of *England*, with whom hee having peace, as he was in a preparation for an Army into *Italy*, hee was prevented by death, the first day of the yeare 1515. Hee was surnamed *The Father of the people*.

This King being instigated and perswaded by some of his familiars to take revenge on the Citizens of *Orleance*, because when hee was Duke of *Orleance*, and when *Charles* the 8. maintaining warres against him, had compelled him to flye into *Brittaine*, they had shut the gates of their City against him: But he forgetting their former injury, answered; That being now King of *France*, hee would not revenge injuries done to the Duke of *Orleance*. Hee being told, making warre then in *Italy* for
the

the recovery of the Dutchy of *Millaine*, that *Agnadell* was taken by his Enemies, who had there taken up their lodging, answered: Then will I lodge upon their bellies, or else they shall lodge upon mine. Being advised to preserve his person from the shot of the great Ordnance, he answered, A rightfull King of *France* was never slaine with the shot of a Cannon: Therefore let him that is affraid, come behinde me. Hee lying in Campe, and a Souldier standing neare him, being slaine with a Cannon shot, and shewed unto the King, hee smild and said, He is but a little cold in his hands.

This King having commanded that a company of Foot-men should be levied of strong active men, and at the day appointed a company of old Souldiers, as appeared by scarres, being presented unto him, said; These men, as it seemes by their wounds, were more willing to take than to give blowes. Whereupon the Souldier replied, They were not
V 2 valianter


valianter than we, for they wounded us, but we slew them. To a Gentleman that boasted of his scarres and wounds in his face, and desired the King to reward his service, hee said, Take heed hereafter of turning backe thy face when thou art flying from thy Enemy. He being dissuaded from making Warres on the *Venetians*, being a wise and prudent people, said, Wee will set so many fooles upon them that shall beard them to the teeth, that they shall not know which way to turne. To certaine Embassadours of *Greece* that demanded succours against the *Turke*, he objected this old Verse *Barbara Græca genus retinent quod habere solebant*. The Lords of the Parliament refusing to admit a Councellour for his ignorance and insufficiency, though preferred by the King; he asked them how many Councellours there were? They replied, an Hundred: Then said the King, cannot you many wise men make one become wise? A Courtier being wonder'd at for

for his great stature, and accounted a Gyant, the King said, it is no wonder, for his Mother tooke paines to make him, and perhaps hee had many Fathers. He told the Ladies of the Court, that Hinds had at first Hornes as well as Harts, but for their pride and rebellion against the Harts, Nature offended therewith, deprived them of their Hornes, to shew that Wives should be obedient to their Husbands. Hee told the Duke of *Angolesme* his sonne in law, that a certaine Father and his son travelling towards a Towne, the sonne said, that now they were almost at the Towne; but yet they afterward travelled untill it was night before they could get to the Towne: whither being come, the Father said to the Sonne, Henceforth Sonne, never say I am at the Towne, till thou art past the Gates. He said also that Asses were happier than Horses, for Horses runne post to *Rome* to get those Benefices whereof Asses are possessed.

possessed. Being asked to marry his Daughter the Lady *Claudia* to a strange Prince, he said, I will make no alliance but with the Kats and Mice of my owne Kingdome.

Francis I. the 58. K. of France. An. 1515.



 Francis of Valois, Duke of Ango-lesme, as next the Collaterall Line Masculine, succeeded Lewis the

the 12, who dyed without heires Males. He was consecrated at *Rheims* the 25. of *January*, 1515, at which time *Charles* of *Bourbon* was made Constable of *France*. The King having taken *Prosper Colonne*, and obtained two battailes against the *Swisses*, tooke *Milan*. After by the perswasion of Pope *Leo* the tenth, the *Milaners* revolted, and immediately after, *Charles* of *Bourbon* tooke part with *Charles* the fifth, Emperour. The King accompanied with the Marshall of *Chabanes*, having recovered the Dutchy of *Milan* into his power, he went to besiege *Pavia*, where he was taken, and by the industrious treaty of *Madric*, Anno Dom. 1525, hee was sent backe into *France*. Afterwards *Charles* of *Bourbon* was slaine, skaling the Walls of *Rome*, which was taken by the *Spaniards* with the Pope. Anno Dom. 1529. a Treaty of *Cambray* was concluded, and the children of *France* were sent backe into *France* with

Madame Elianor. The King and the Pope by Embassies came to an agreement at *Marsilles*, where the Marriage of *Henry Duke of Orleance*, with the Countesse of *Bologne*, the Popes Niece, was solemnized.

After this the King sent the Lord of *Montmorency* against the Emperour, who intended to come against *Marsilles*, who enforced him to retire into *Spaine*, and afterwards invaded *France* upon the Coast of *Picardy*, and sent another Army to *Piedmont*, against whom the King sent his forces, which tooke *Suse*, *Villane*, and *Montcalier*, which caused the truce of *Nice* for ten yeares, during which the Emperour passed through *France* into *Flanders*. In the meane time *Cesar Fregose* and *Anthony Rincon* the Kings Embassadours to the *Turke*, were slaine by the Imperialists. Whereupon the King according with the Duke of *Cleve* against the Emperour, tooke *Luxembourg*, *Landrecy* and other places:

places: Of which the Emperour being certified, besieged *Landrecy*, but in vaine. On the other side the Lord of *Anguyen*, the Kings Lievtenant in *Piedmont*, having gained the battaile of *Cerissoles*, tooke *Carignan*: whereof the Emperour being advertised, made a preparation against *Paris*, but perceiving the *French* too powerfull in forces, demanded a Peace, which was published at *Paris*. This being done, the King intends a Warre against the English at *Boulen*, with whom having made Peace, hee went to pay his debt to Nature at *Rambouillet*, the last of *March*, 1547, and lyes interred at *St. Denis*. To one that desired pardon for another that had used ill speeches of his Majesty, this King said, Let him for whom thou art a suiter, learne to speake little, and I will learne to pardon much. At *Paris* in an Oration against Hereticks, hee said: If my arme were infected with that contagion, I would cut it off from my

my body, and cast it into the fire. Hee said that hee was sorry that the Gentlemen of his Realme being most serviceable, and ingenious, were not qualified with Learning, to be capable of Civill offices as well as Military, since Vertue is the formall cause of Gentility, which should exceed base low dispositions, by an eminent exaltation of goodnesse, deriving their pettigree from Heaven, for *Vera est Nobilitas quadam cognatio Dÿs*, True Nobility is a certaine affinity to the Gods. A Treaty of peace being propounded, and ready to bee concluded betweene the Emperour *Charles* the fift and this King *Francis*, hee said : Peace and amity betweene us cannot long endure, for the Emperour cannot abide an Equall or Companion, and I cannot endure a Master.

Henry

Henry the 2. and 59. King of France.

Anno 1547.



Henry the second succeeding to the Crowne on his birth day, was consecrated at *Rheimes* in August 1547. Hee sent the Lord of *Esse* into *Scotland*, for a defence of that Countrey, and built a Fort over against that of *Boullen*: immediately after

ter the Commons of *Guienne* mutined upon taxations whilst the King was in *Piedmont*, from whence, being upon his returne into *France*, he caused them to be punished by the Constable, and made his enterance into *Paris*: proclaimed open warres against *England*, and renewed his allyance with the *Swisses*. Pope *Iulius* the third being incensed against the King for the City of *Parma*, solicited the Emperour to take up Armes against him, and to beleaguer *Parma* and *Mirandula*: whereupon the King made a prohibition of sending to the Court of *Rome* for matters of Benefices; and in the meane time he tooke *Quiers*, *S. Damian*, and other places of *Piedmont*: on the other side the *Burgundions*, and *Hannuyers* over-runne the Countrey of *Santois*, above *Peronne*: but to requite them, the King making an expedition into *Almany*, by the policy of the Constable seezd of the *Metz*, and the Countrey of *Messin*, and tooke

tooke the Duke & Dutchy of *Lorraine* into his protection: Afterwards hee joyned forces with Duke *Maurice*, who falsifying his faith in his returne invaded the Dutchy of *Luxembourg*, taking the Townes of *Tvoy*, *Montmedy*, *Lumes*, and *Civay*. In the meane time the Emperour marched to the siege of *Metz*, whence he was forced to dis-encampe with the losse of 30000 men, and threw himselfe upon *Therouenne*, which he tooke with the Castle of *Hedin*. The King on the other side tooke *Mariembourg*, and other Townes in *Piedmont*. After that the Emperour quitting the Empire, retired himselfe into *Spaine*, to live a solitary life, and a peace for five yeares was concluded between the Emperour, the Kings of *England* and *France*, which continued not long. For warres being renewed betweene the said Kings, the day of *St. Laurence*, to the losse of the *French*: in revenge whereof the King tooke *Cales*, *Gnines*, *Hames*,

Hames, and the County of *Oye* : Peace after being made by the marriage betweene King *Philip*, and the Lady *Elizabeth* of *France*, and of the Duke of *Savoy*, with Madam *Margarite*, sister to the King ; and in the continuance of the solemnity, the King running at Tilt, was hit in the eye, of which hurt he dyed at *Tournells*, the twentieth day of *Iuly*, *Anno Domini* 1559. and lyes interred at *St. Denis* in *France*.

This King having the good inclination of his Nature confirmed, by being well brought up under his Father, ordained many good Lawes for the reforming apparrell, providing for the poore, maintenance of Justice, and relieving his oppressed Subjects ; but especially hee made a Law against swearing and blaspheming, and herein he did singularly well : but he disgraced these good actions, by permitting a bloody and fatall Combate, betwixt

Iarnac

Iarnac and *Chastaignery*, Gentlemen, upon the giving the lye, performed at *St. German* in *Lay* on the fixeteenth of *Iuly*, before the King and divers Princes and Noblemen, wherein *Jarnac*, held the weaker, got the better, and gave the other many deadly wounds whereof he dyed ; whereupon the King did forbid all Combats.

Thus hee beganne his reigne with this Tragedy, and ended it with his owne ; For at the marriage of *Elizabeth* of *France*, the King having published a solemne running at the Tilt, (as is before mentioned) the King would needes be one of the Challengers, and the second day of the Tourny, being perswaded by the Queene, and the Duke of *Savoy* to retire out of the Lists, he desired to runne once more against the Earle of *Montgomery*, who first refused, but afterward runne, and upon the Kings Helmet broke his
Lance,

Lance, and with a splinter thereof (his Beaver being somewhat open) strikes him so deepe in the eye, so that he dyed in his house at *Tournells*, in the 44. yeare of his age. The day before his death he would have the Duke of *Savoy* and the Lady *Margaret* his sister marryed in his Chamber. His heart was interred in the *Celestines* Church, in the Duke of *Orleans* his Chappell. His Character was good, but hee was formerly voluptuous, and permitted himselfe to be abused by his Officers, selling Lawes and his authority. For such *Kings* are but pictures of Princes without life, all power remaining in the subject, to the oppression and wrong of the Land.

Francis

Francis the 2. and 60. King of France.
Anno 1559.



His *Francis*, King of *Scotland* by *Mary Stuart* his wife, at the age of fifteene yeares, and five Moneths, succeeded his father *Henry*, and was Crowned at *Rheimes*, September 1559. by the Cardinall of *Lorraine*.

raine, Arch-Bishop of that See: after his Coronation, he went to conduct his Brother in law the Duke of *Lorraine*, and the Dutchesse *Claudia* his sister as farre as *Barle* Duke: from whence hee returned into *France*, and sojourned for a while in the City of *Blois*, where he reformed some abuses of those that followed his Court. In the meane time this *President Minard* was slaine in his owne House, returning from Court: This murther was a cause that it was forbidden to carry trucheons and weapons. The Counsellor of *Bourg* was burnt for his Religion. The King having made preparations; sent the Lord of *Martigues* into *Scotland*, for the suppression of some *Scots*, who upon pretext of Religion were in *Armes*: during which time, *Mary* of *Lorraine* Dowager of *Scotland* deceased. At the same time also certaine Gentlemen of *France*, being assembled in *Armes* neare the City of *Amboise*, where

where the King was attended by the Cardinall of *Lorraine*, and his brother, the Duke of *Guise*, were discovered in a certaine enterprisc, which they pretended to be for the publicke good, and for the dispossessing of some strangers, usurpers of the Kings authority, and Kingdome, contrary to the ancient authority of the three Estates of *France*; and also for making some remonstrances to the King concerning Religion: for which many were executed to death, amongst whom the Baron of *Castelnau* was one. At that time the Chancellour *Oliver* deceased, in whose place and dignity was instituted *Monsieur de'l Hospital*. Shortly after the King went to *Orleans*, there to settle himselfe, where he fell sicke of an Apostume in his left eare, whereof he dyed the foureteenth of *September*, *Anno Domini* 1560. having reigned about eighteen months and twenty dayes, and lyes interred at *S. Denis*.

The Protestants were very much persecuted in this Kings reigne, and there were foure prisoners of especiall note, *Castelnau, Villemongis, Campagnac, and le Picard*, who cryed out against the Chancellor that had signed the sentence of their deaths, who thereupon fell suddenly sicke, and when the Cardinall of *Lorraine* came to visit him, cryed out: *O Cardinall thou hast damned us all*. While the King lay dangerously sicke, the Queene mother intending to support the *Guisans*, called the King of *Navarre* into her closet, to whom, as he was going a Lady of the Court said: My Lord, deny the Queen mother nothing that she shall demand, else you are dead: whereupon he signed what shee desired, and thereby obtained her favour. Afterward the King dyed of *Catarrh* and a Feaver the 14. of *December*, whose seeds of vertue lay hid in his nature, and were not discerned, onely some shewes of courtesie, modesty, and conti-

continency were in his younger yeares apparent, and therefore his death was not much lamented, but of such as in his nonage possessed usurped estates. After his decease the Prince of *Conde* turned the streame of affaires. To give a brieffe Character of this King and his reigne, he was a picture of Majesty drawne in raw colours, being young in yeares and judgement, governed by his Mother, and his wives Uncles. The Princes of Blood were in his reigne not regarded, power and might prevailed in Court, and the Clergy sought protection from the disturbers of *France*. The Nobility were engaged in warres, and the people divided in matters of Religion, and in the Court factions were maintained: this was the face and complexion of those times; miseries incident to the minority of Princes.

*Charles the 9. and 61. King of France.
Anno 1560.*



His Charles theninth, at the Age of thirteene, succeeded his Brother *Francis*. Hee pursu'd the enterprises of his Predecessor, for his State affaires, which were

were begunne the eighth of *December* Anno Domini 1560. at *Orleans*, and afterward finished at *Pontoise*, August and September following, Anno Domini 1561. At that time hee assembled the *Prelates* of *France* at *Posse* to a Nationall Counsell. The *January* following it was permitted to the *Huguenots* to make their exercises and Sermons out of the Cities. Whereupon ensued great troubles, warres, and slaughters of great Lords and personages, as of the King of *Navarre*, who was slaine before *Rouen*; and in the battaile of *Dreux*, which was given the 19. of *March*, Anno Domini 1562. the Martiall of *St. Andrew*, and the Duke of *Guise* were slaine before *Orleans*. A while after, the Towne of *Haure de Grace* was recovered, which had beene before yeelded to the English. The King at the Parliament at *Rouen*, being declared Mayor, after an Edict of Pacification made, went to visit his Kingdome,

dome, *Anno domini* 1564. and went to meet his sifter, the Queene of *Spain*, at *Bayonne*, where great magnificences were performd. After having visited the *Gascogne*, *Guienne*, and *Poitou*, he came to *Mouins*, where he made many excellent Ordinances. The second civill warre sprung up, wherein, after that the King had made an escape out of *Meaux*, the battaile of *St. Denis* was fought, wherein the Constable was wounded, which was a cause of another *Pacification*, by reason of the siege of *Chartres*, which was broken by the third intestine warre, which continued two yeares space; during which, the ed battaile of *Iarnac* was fought, wherein the Prince of *Conde* was slaine; and another battaile at *Montcontour*. After which, another Edict of *Pacification* was made, *Anno Domini* 1570. Afterwards the King married the Lady *Elizabeth* of *Austria*, daughter to the Emperour *Maximilian*. Also the marriage

riage of the King of *Navarre* was celebrated *Anno Domini* 1573. and the 24. of *August*, the same yeare the Admirall was slaine in *Paris*, with a great number of the *Hugoneotes* and *Rochelle* was besieged. Then a fourth pacification by the election in *Poland* of the Duke of *Anjou*, brother to the King, was made: he being gone in his Kingdome of *Poland*, was certified of his brother, the Kings, death on the 30. of *May*, at the *Bois de Vincennes*, 1574. having one daughter who dyed an Infant. He lyes at *St. Denis*.

Hee was a Prince that had excellent naturall gifts, but blended and mingled with vices, wherewith his Governours and Schoolemasters had corrupted his young minde, which at the first was more vertuously inclined, delighting in Musick and Poetry. But as he was a great Hunter, that lov'd to shed the blood of wilde beasts, so hee suffered also (during his reigne) the Protestants blood

blood to be shed, and in revenge thereof in his sicknesse before his death great store of blood issued out by vomiting, and by other passages of his body, in the two last weekes of his sicknesse, wherein he endured as much paine and torment, as the strength of youth could suffer in the last pangs of death. And this judgement shewed that God loves not the Prince that thirsts after his subjects blood, which is the very blood of the Prince. Some few houres before his death he said: It was a great comfort unto him that he left no heire Male lawfully begotten; for leaving him young, he must endure many crosses, and *France* had neede of a man.

Henry

Henry 3. the 62. King of France.
Anno 1575.



His *Henry* the third was at the instant of his brothers death, in his Kingdome of *Poland*, whereof he having notice, hee in privacy went out of *Poland*, and arrived at *Lyons* the sixt of *September*, *Anno 1574*, and was con-

consecrated at *Rheims* February the 13. *Anno Dom.* 1575, and the 15. of the same Moneth he married *Madam Loyse* of *Lorraine*, Daughter of the Count of *Vaudemont*. After in the yeare 1576, he convocated his Statesmen to *Blois*, where singular good Statutes were enacted. *Anno Domini* 1577. there was an Edict of *Pacification* published for the quiet of his Kingdome. He began the foundation of the *Augustines* Bridge *Anno Dom.* 1578. The Order of the Knights of the Holy Ghost was by him instituted, *Anno Dom.* 1579. After his Edict of *Pacification*, untill the decease of his onely brother *Monsieur* the Duke of *Anjou* his Kingdome was in peace: but soone after, *Anno Domini* 1585, there grew up a faction pernicious to him and his Estate, which was called the *Ligue*, or the holy *Union*, the Author whereof was the King of *Spaine*, purposely to hinder *Henry* King of *Navarre* from his access to the Crowne of
France,

France, to whom after the decease of this King, it of right did belong. This Faction was violated under a colour of Religion, which was of such a force, that the Principality thereof made sure of the prime Cities in the whole Kingdome, their owne, and amongst the rest, *Paris* it selfe: the Inhabitants whereof having barricadoed themselves against their King on the twelfth of *May*, *Anno Domini* 1588, he was constrained to retire himselfe to *Chartres*, and thence to *Rouen*. In the end the second time he assembled his men of State at *Blois*, at the end whereof hee caused the Duke and Cardinall of *Guise* to bee executed. Upon which execution *Paris* revolted, together with the prime Cities of the Realme, and the Rebells made the Duke of *Mayenne* to bee their Chiefe: which was a cause that the King removed his Parlement to *Tours* in *March*, in the yeare 1589, and being reconciled to the King of *Navarre*, he went to be-
leaguer

leaguer *Paris*, and being at *St. Cland*, on the first day of *August* hee was most trayterously stabbed with a knife in the bottome of his belly by a *Jacobin*, of which wound hee dyed the day following in that siege in the midst of his Army, having reigned 15. yeares and two Moneths. His Corps was conducted to *Compaigne*, where it remaineth to this day entombed.

§ This King plotting before his receiving the Crowne, how to ruine the *Huguenots*, the Emperour told him, that there was no greater sinne than to force mens consciences; for such as thinke to command them, supposing to winne Heaven, doe often lose that which they possesse on Earth. He was at last murdered (as was said) by a *Jacobin* Fryar, who as the King bended downe to heare in private that which he expected, drew a knife out of his sleeve made a purpose, and thrust his Majesty into the bottome of the belly, and there leaves the knife
in

in the wound: The murderer was by those which ranne to helpe the King, presently killed. But the King lived awhile, and at his death hee advised them to unite themselves in revenging his murder, but yet he forgave his enemies, and charged them to seeke the preservation of the Realme, by purging out Faction. And lastly hee wished them to referre the difference of Religion to the Convocation of the Estates of the Realme, saying that Piety is a duty of man to God, over which worldly force hath no power. The Picture of his minde was faire and lovely, being drawne with the lines of wit, eloquence, gravity, devotion, affection to learning, bountifull to desert, reforming abuses, peaceable and willing to heare counsell, but this comely beauty was disgraced by a pale weaknesse in adversity, a smiling wantonnesse, and too liberall a prodigality, which somewhat blemished this Prince, who had otherwise beene
an

an exact peece of perfection, worthy to be placed among the chiefest Monarchs.

Henry the 4, the 63. King of France.
Anno 1589.



His Henry the-fourth, surnamed the Great, King of Navarre, as first of the Bourbon line, being descended from Robert, the last sonne of S. Lewis,

St. Lewis, succeeded to the Crowne of France by consent and assistance of the Nobility, and Army of the late Henry, by whose deplored death it was dispersed, retired himselfe to Dieppe, where he was besieged by the Duke of Mayenne with a potent Army, which by this King was routed, with a small number of Arques the 21. of September, Anno Domini 1589. And from thence pursued his victory even to Paris, taking the Suburbs thereof upon All-Hallows Eve. Afterwards hee recovered Vendosme Mans and Falaise.

The fourteenth of March 1590, hee obtained the famous victory of Jarry, after which hee blocked up Paris and St. Denis, and reduced them to such an extremity of famine, that in July following St. Denis yeelded it selfe to his power, and Paris also was upon the point of surrender. April, 1591. the City of Chartres after a long siege was yeelded up also to him.

Y

January,

January, 1593. began the Estates of the *Ligue* at *Paris*, and the Truce of *Suresne* followed, which being in dispute the King tooke the City of *Drenx*, and shortly after he was instructed in the *Roman* Faith, whereof hee made a publique and solemne profession at *St. Denis*, the 25. of *July*. *August* following the generall Truce began, and continued untill the first day of the yeare 1594, which being expired, the King caused himselfe to be crowned at *Chartres* by the Bishop of that *See*, the 27. of *February*. Hereupon ensued the submission of *Meaux*, *Lyons*, *Orleanse*, *Bourges*, *Rouen* and *Paris*, where the King was most magnificently entertained.

A while after the City of *Laon* was besieged, and yeelded up to the King, and upon that *Champagne* and *Picardy* also submitted, yea, and the Duke of *Guise*. The King being returned to *Paris*, was stabbed in the face with a knife by a young desperate Student called

called *John Chastel*, who for that fact was deservedly torne in pieces with wilde Horses the 29. of *December*.

The King being recovered of his hurt, made Knights of the *Holy Ghost*, in *January*, 1595. After the City of *Dijon* submitted, and in a manner all *Burgundy*. Also the second generall Truce was published, and in the *interim* the reconciliation of the Duke of *Mayenne* was wrought, together with those of the Dukes of *Toyense* and *Espernon*.

In the beginning of the yeare 1596, the City of *Marsilles* was surrendered to the King, and to the Duke of *Guise*, Governour of *Provence*: Hee also after eight Moneths siege, tooke the Towne of *La Fere* in *Picardy* about mid *May*, notwithstanding the resistance of the *Spanish* forces then under the Conduct of the Arch-Duke of *Austria*, who came purposely out of *Flanders* to raise that siege.

At *Rouen* in a generall assembly of the
Y 2 Peeres

Peeres of *France*, the Alliance between him and Queene *Elizabeth* of *England* was renewed by Embassages extraordinary in *October*, when the King received from her the Order of *St. George*, (*alias*) the *Garter*, as, not long before, the Order of the *Chevalry* or *Knight-hood* of *France* was sent unto the Queen of *England*, by *Monsieur* the Marshall of *Bouillon*.

Anno Domini 1599. the King made ordinary Knights of the *Holy Ghost* at *Rouen*, which was never there done before, at any other place than at *Paris*.

Not long after, the Towne of *Amiens* was taken by the *Spaniards*, and cruelly pillaged for the space of 5. daies, and the *French* beaten out. The King resolved upon a revenging siege, and to that end caused it to be encompassed by *Monsieur* the Marshall of *Biron* and his Troops for the impeachments of all manner of supplies: and the King in person the 21. of *May* marched towards the

the said siege of *Amiens*, which after many furious assaults, Sallies, and Skirmishes, was surrendred upon composition upon Thursday the 25. of *September*, notwithstanding that the Cardinall of *Austria* came even to the Trenches with an Army of 18000. foot, and 2000 Horse, with 18. Cannons for Battery, but was valiantly beaten backe, and intercepted of his designe of relieving the City, and enforced to a shamefull retreat, with the losse of a great part of his men.

The same yeare the Marriage of the King with *Madam Margaret* of *France* for many strong and lawfull causes was annulled and made void, and by the Authority of Pope *Clement* the eight, was so published.

The yeare 1600. the Marriage of the King was treated, and concluded with the Lady *Mary* of *Medicis*, Princesse of *Florence*, Daughter of the late Great Duke of *Tuscany*, *Francis* of *Medicis*,

and of *Joane of Austria*, Daughter of the Emperour *Ferdinand*, and in *May* shee in her owne Countrey was proclaimed *Queene of France*.

The 13. of *June* 1602. *Charles* Duke of *Biron*, and Lord High Marshall of *France*, being come to *Fontainbleau*, was arrested upon high Treason by the Kings command, and from thence conveyed to the *Bastile* at *Paris*. Hee was convicted by his Peeres for attempts against the Kings Person and State, and upon the Munday before, being the 29. of *July*, hee was adjudged to lose his head, with the confiscation of his goods, and the land of *Biron* deprived for ever of being a Dutchy and Pairy of *France*, and was reunited to the Crowne.

It was pleaded against him, *Qui nec virtute nec fide prodest, prodest exemplo*: He that can never profit by his vertue, nor his loyalty, must profit by his example; and thereupon he was condemned, and put

put into the said *Bastile*, whither the Chancellour comming to pronounce the sentence of death against him, hee shaked the Chancellour by the Arme, saying, You have judged me, and God will absolve me; hee will lay open their iniquities, which have shut their eyes, because they would not see my innocency: You my Lord shall answer for this injustice before him, whither I doe summon you within a yeare and a day. I goe before by the judgment of men, but those that are the cause of my death, shall come after by the judgment of God. Afterward he said, I see well that I am not the most wicked, but I am the most unfortunate. Those that have done worse than I would have done, are favoured, the Kings Clemency is dead for me. He doth not imitate *Cæsar* nor *Augustus*, or those great Princes, who not onely pardoned the intention of doing ill, but the Act; and wherein can the King shew himselfe greater than in

Y 4 pardoning?

pardoning? Clemency is a Kingly vertue; every one may give Death, but it belongs onely to Sovereignty to give life: But the Chancellour told him, that a condemned man must not dispute against his Judgment, whereupon the Duke of *Biron* delivered up the Kings order. Afterward the Chancellour said that hee had brought two Divines to comfort him, and prepare him for death, but the Duke said, That he was already prepared, and that his soule was in such tranquillity, as the night before hee had spoken with God. Within few daies after he was beheaded, and his body interred by night in the Church of *S. Paul*.

The yeare 1604. the King was advertised that one *Nicholas l'Hoste*, Secretary of State, discovered to the King of *Spaine*, (from whom he received an annuall Pension to that end) the secrets and affaires of the State: upon the notice taken *L'Hoste* put himselfe in flight for his owne safety, but he was so closely followed

followed and pursued, that he was enforced to hide himselfe in the River of *Marne*, where he dyed through cold and feare. His body being found, was condemned to bee drawne in peeces with wilde horses, and the foure quarters to be set upon foure wheeles at foure gates of *Paris*. The yeare 1610. there were taken out of the *Arsenal* of *Paris* Fifty great Gunnes, with store of Munition of powder and shot, and great numbers of Souldiers were leavied.

The King intended shortly after to enter into his Army, but he would first see his Queene should bee crowned at *St. Denis*, which was performed with great solemnity. But the next day after this Magnificence and pompe of the Queenes Coronation, this great King was on Friday the 14. of *May*, 1610. about foure in the afternoone most traitterously murdered in his Caroch with two stabbs with a knife neare the region of his heart, passing in the Streete of the

Ferrenery,

Ferronery, neare the Charnells of the *Innocents Church-yard*, by *Francis Ravallac*, borne in *Angolesme*. His Obsequies were performed the three dayes following, the 21, 22, 23. of *June*, with infinite teares and lamentations: and after many funebriall solemnities, his Corps was conducted to *St. Denis*, where it remaineth interred.

He lived fifty sixe yeares, and thirty one daies. Hee reigned in *Navarre* Thirty seven yeares, eleaven moneths, or thereabout; and in *France* Twenty yeares, nine moneths, and thirteene dayes.

Lewis

Lewis the 13. and 64. King of France.
Anno 1610.



L*ewis the 13. at his age of eight yeares, seven Moneths, and seventeene dayes, succeeded his Father Henry the Great, and the fifteenth of May, Anno Domini 1610. he*
fate

sate personally in the Court of Parliament, then sitting at the *Augustines*, where, in the presence of the Queene his mother, who sate by him of the one side, foure Cardinalls, foure Ecclesiasticall Peeres of *France*, some Princes of the Blood, and other Princes, who met in that assembly; also of the Constable, with many Dukes and secular Peeres, of the *Marshalls* of *France*, and Officers of the Crowne, of Governours of Provinces, of Presidents and Counsellors of the Parliament, he by the Mouth of the Lord *Sillery* his Chancellor declared his Mother to be Regent in *France*, that shee might have the tuition of his person, and the administration of the affaires of his Kingdome, during his minority, with all authority and power, according to the charge of that Court given the day before.

The same Moneth the criminall indictment was preferred against the most inhumane Parricide, *Francis Ravallac*

vaillac, and on the 23. of May, he was declared guilty, and justly attainted, and convicted of the crime of *Lesæ Majestatis* in the highest degree, in the great Court and Chamber of *Turnella* in *Paris*, before all the Assemblies, Presidents, Counsellours, and Commissioners, at the request of *Du Vignit*, Atturney Generall to the King, whose place and authority was there then to inquire against this *Francis Ravallac*, for the murther of his late Sovereigne *Henry* the fourth, King of *France* and *Navarre*: Whereupon this *Ravallac* with a sad and death-like countenance, holding up his guilty hand before this great assembly, presently confessed guilty; and that he became this his Countries shame, onely by the instigation of the Divell; and not any other accomplices and confederates would he reveale, but in a Satanicall manner vowed himselfe to secrecie; and being found guilty, he was with a strong guard of armed men convey-

conveyed to prison, which otherwise by the violence and rage of the common people, had beene torne in peeces, such was their love they owed to their late King : for which Fact he was condemned to pay his forfeit before the great gate of our Lady Church in *Paris*, and thence to be conveyed to the place of execution ; and in the meane time, to make him confesse, he was to be pinched with hot Pincers upon his breasts, armes, buttocks, thighs, and the Calves of his legges ; his right hand to be burnt off with fire of brimstone, with an order, that in those places where hee was so pinched, melted Lead should be powdered, boyling Oyle, Pitch, Rozen, Waxe, and Brimstone, melted altogether. This being done, that his body should be torne in pieces, and dismembred by foure horses, and that his Limbes should be burnt and consumed to ashes, and cast into the winde ; all his goods to be confiscate to the King : that the house wherein

wherein he was borne, should be demolished, and never any Edefice upon that ground to be built : that within fifteene dayes after the publication of this sentence in the towne of *Angolessme*, his Father and Mother should depart the Realme, and never returne againe, upon paine of being hanged, without any other proceedings : It was also forbidden in the aforesaid High Court, that his brothers, sisters uncles, and all others that beare the name of *Ravaillac*, to whom it was enjoined to change it into another name, upon the same penalty : All which was published and put in execution the same day, by the order of the whole assembly in the aforesaid Court in *Paris* : but before I conclude, I will speake againe of the manner of his death ; because in that place I will not omit some things more worthy of note.

Afterwards it was provided for the Funeralls and obsequies of the dead King,

King, and then the body of the late *Henry* the third was removed from the Towne of *Compeigne* to be interred at *St. Denis*; which was performed, and the heart of this *Henry* the Great, at the same time was carryed to the Jesuites at *la Flech*.

The *Sorbone* renewed the Decree of the Councill of *Constance* against *Paracides of Kings*, and by the Court of Parliament upon the *Iuine*, it condemned a Book of *Iohn Mariana*, one of the Society, a Spaniard intituled *De Rege & Regis institutione*, and caused it to be burnt by the Executioner before our Ladies Church.

The Martiall *de la Chastra*, being sent with an Army of twelve thousand foot, and two thousand Horse to *Tulliers*, which he took the second of September.

Divers Embassadors came to *Paris* to the King, to bemoane and condole with him the death of his father: and

King

King Iames of England sent unto him the Order of the Garter, which he received the fourteenth of September.

The 17. of October the King was consecrated at *Rheimes*, and the next day he received the Order of the Holy Ghost; and he gave the Order to the Prince of *Conde*, and returned to *Paris*, where he was magnificently entertained.

The sixe and twentieth of November it was proceeded and decreed in the Court of Parliament against a Booke of *Cardinall Bellarmine*, touching the Popes authority *In Temporalibus*, which was forbidden to be printed, to be sold, or kept, upon paine of High Treason.

The seventeenth day of November, Anno Domini 1611. the Duke of *Orleans*, brother to the King, deceased at *St. Germans en Lay*, and his body was conveyd to *St. Denis* in France.

Z

The

The Lord of *Vatan* made a kinde of a Rebellion in *Berry*, whereupon his Castle was taken, and he carryed to *Paris*, where he was beheaded the second, of *January*, *Anno Domini* 1612.

This yeare were solemnized the marriages of the King with the Lady *Anne Infanta* of *Spaine*, and of the Kings Sister, with the Prince of *Spaine*.

The yeare 1614 the Prince of *Conde* retired himselfe to *Paris*, and the Marquesse *D'Ancre* was made Marshall of *France*.

The Statue of *Brasse* of *Henry* the Great, was by the great Duke of *Tuscany* sent to *Paris*, and placed with the Horse of *Brasse*, upon the midst of the New Bridge ; And about that time the Prince of *Conty* dyed.

The Prince distasted with the Kings espousalls with the Queene at *Burgos*, made a hurly burly in the Countrey, but

but the Espousalls being ended, the Duke of *Guise* with a strong Army conducted her to *Fontarable*, where shee was received by the *Spaniards*, and an exchange being made, the Queene was by the said Duke conveyed to *Bourdeaux*, where shee was most magnificently entertained by the King, where hee expected her, and the Nuptials were celebrated on *St. Katharines* day.

The yeare 1616. such was the rigour of cold weather in *January*, that the Rivers were frozen, and the yce was the cause of the fall of *St. Michaels* at *Paris*.

The 16. of *August*, the taking of *Peronne* was a cause of new commotions, and the first of *September* was apprehended at the *Louvre*, and after kept under a strong guard in the *Bastile*.

Many of the Lords retired from the Court, as the Duke of *Vendosme*, of *Nevers*, of *Guise*, of *Mayenne*, and *Bovillon*, with other Lords, whereof some returned againe, the others not: which was

a cause that the King in Parliament declared the causes wherefore he kept the Prince his brother in hold.

In the beginning of the yeare 1617. he made a Declaration against the Duke of *Nevers* in Parliament, the 17. of *January*, also in *February* against the Dukes of *Vendosme*, *Mayenne*, *Bouillon*, the Marquesse of *Cœuvre*, and the President *le Jay*. Also another Declaration was made in *March* for the re-union to his *Domaines*, and a Confiscation of the goods of the said Nobility upon the 16. of the said Moneth.

This King succeeded after the Tragicall death of his Father, when great troubles were like to follow; but all those clouds were blowne away, and this young Prince shined forth like the Sun in a cleare skie. First of all hee went to the Parliament, and made a Declaration that his Mother should be Queene Regent during his minority. Afterward the Jesuites received his Fathers heart,

heart, with great Ceremony, being received into *La Flech*. Here the Arraignment and cruell Execution of the Murderer *Ravilliac* deserves to be drawne forth in blacke colours. Imagine that *Ravilliac* was first arraign'd after he had beene put to the Rack, then condemned, afterward hee was brought out of the prison in his shirt, with a Torch of two pound weight lighted in one hand, and the knife wherewith he had murdered the King, chained to the other: then he was set upright in a Dung-cart, now hee is doing pennance at our *Ladies Church*; now imagine the raging people are ready to teare him in peeces, but the Officers restraine them; the Murderer came to the Scaffold, he crosses himselfe in signe that he dyed a Papist; hee was bound to a *St. Andrews Crosse*, then his fatall hand with the knife chained to it, smoaks in a Furnace of fire and brimstone; it is consum'd, yet hee will not confesse any thing, but roare and cry like

to a Soule in hell, but yet unpitied : and then his flesh was pulld off with hot Pincers, and burnt, then scalding Oyle, Rozen, pitch, and brimstone, melted together, were powr'd into his wounds, and on his navell a roundell of Clay was set, into the which they powred molten Lead, and then he roared, but confessed nothing. At last, to conclude this Tragedy, his body was torne in pieces with foure strong Horses, which could not plucke them asunder, being so firmly knit together, untill the flesh under his armes and thighes was cut. In this manner was this Paricide tormented and executed, being the horrid picture of a Traytor, suffering extreame tortures, yet misery nor death could not enforce from him any confession. And surely if Hells tortures might be felt on earth, it was approved in this mans punishment, yet he would reveale nothing, but that he did it by the instigation of the Devil, and his maine reason was, because the
King

King tollerated two Religions in his Kingdome. Oh small occasion, that for this cause one servile slave should thus quench the great light of *France*, whose brightnesse glistred thorow *Europe*: One thing this Villaine confessed, that of all the severall torments that were invented and laid upon him, none was more terrible to him, than his losse of sleepe for fixe dayes and nights together, for there were appointed severall officers by turnes to keepe him waking, by thrusting red-hot bodkins into his breasts and sides; so that if he did but offer to winke or give a nod, then presently they awaked him with those Irons. He was torne in peeces as I said before, and his bones burnt, the ashes whereof were scattered in the winde, as being thought unworthy of the earths buriall. This *Ravaillac* was borne at *Angolesme*, and by profession a Lawyer, and was perswaded as it is thought, by the Jesuites to perpetrate this bloody act, by

murdering this Kings Father, *Henry* the fourth, the hope of Learning, and the glory of Armes. Afterward the Duke of *Fener*, Embassadour from *Spaine*, came to *Paris*, and being brought into the Kings presence, he said that he came from the King his Master to visite his Majesty. This young *Prince* answered, I thanke the King my brother for his good will, I will remember him and you also: Seeing he desires it, he may expect from me all friendship and good intelligence, such as hee had with the deceased King my Father. Afterward the Lord *Wotton*, Embassadour from *England*, came to *Paris*, and then Embassadors for confirmation of mutuall league being sent into *Spaine*, *England*, and to *Rome*, the King was at *Rheims* with solemne pompe and great state crowned.

FINIS.



The Table of all the Names of the Kings of FRANCE, which are contained in this Booke.

P Haramond, the first King of France, <i>Anno Domini 429.</i>	page 1.
Cloion or Clodion, the second King of France, <i>Anno Dom. 432.</i>	pag. 5
Merovæus, the third King of France, <i>An. Dom. 450.</i>	pag. 9
Chilperick or Hilperick, the fourth King of France. <i>Anno 470.</i>	pag. 14
Clovis, the fifth King of France, and the first Christian King of that Nation. <i>Anno 485.</i>	pag. 18
Childebert the sixth King of France. <i>Anno 514.</i>	pag. 23
Clotharius the first of that Name, and the seventh King of France. <i>An. 559.</i>	p. 28
Cherebert, the eighth King of France. <i>Anno 564.</i>	pag. 22
Chilperic, the ninth King of France. <i>Anno 577.</i>	pag. 36
	Clotha-

The Table.

Clotharius, the second of that name, and the 10. King of France. Anno 586.	p.40
Dagobert, the 11. King of France. Anno 632.	pag.44.
Clovis, alias, Lewis, the second of that name, the 12. King of France. Anno 645.	pag. 49
Clotharius, the third of that name, and the 13. King of that Nation. Anno 666.	pag. 53
Childeric 2. the 14. King of that Nation, Anno 570.	pag. 58
Theodorick the 15. King of that Nation. Anno 680.	pag. 62
Clovis the 3. the 16. King of that Nation. Anno 689.	pag.67
Childebert the 2. the 17. king of that nation. Anno 692.	pag.71
Dagobert the 2. the 18. king of that Nation. Anno 710.	pag. 75
Clotharius the 4. the 19. king of that nation. Anno 719.	pag. 79
Daniel, alias, Chilperick, the 20. king of that Nation. Anno 719.	pag. 83
Theodorick the 2, the 21. king of that Nation.	

The Table.

Nation. Anno 720.	pag.87
Childerick the 3. the 22. king of that Nation. Anno 740.	pag.91
Charles Martel, Duke and Prince of the French, Anno 788.	pag.95
Pepin surnamed the short, the first of that name, the 23. king of that Nation, Anno 752.	pag. 101
Charlemaine, Emperour of Rome, the 24. king of France, An. 768.	pag.106
Lewis the Debonaire, Emperor of Rome, and the 25. king of France, Anno 814.	pag.111
Charles the Bald, Emperor of Rome, the 26. king of France. An.840.	pag.115
Lewis and Charoloman, or Carlon, the 28. king of France. An. 879.	p.128
Lewis the Lubber, and Charles the grosse, the 29. king of France. An.885.	p.126
Eudes or Odo, the 30. king of France. Anno 891.	pag. 130
Charles surnamed the simple, the 31. king of France. An.898.	pag. 135
Rodulph or Raoul of Burgundy, the 32. king of France.	pag. 139
	Lewis

The Table.

Lewis the 4, the 33. king of that Nation,
Anno 939. pag. 144
Lotharius the 4, the 34. king of France,
Anno 954. pag. 150
Lewis the 5, the 35. king of France,
Anno 986. pag. 155
Hugh Capet, the first of that name, the
36. king of France, Anno 987. pag. 158
Robert the 1, the 37. king of France,
Anno 997. pag. 163
Henry the 1, the 38. king of France,
Anno 1031. pag. 168
Philip the 1, the 39. king of France,
Anno 1060. pag. 173
Lewis the 6, the 40. king of France,
Anno 1109. pag. 178
Lewis the 7. was called Augustus, being
the 41. king of France, An. 1131. p. 183
Philip the 2, who was surnamed Au-
gustus, the 42. king of France, Anno
1180. pag. 188
Lewis the 8, the 43. king of France,
Anno 1223. pag. 194
Lewis the 9, the 44. king of France,
Anno 1226. pag. 199
Philip

The Table.

Philip the 3, the 45. king of France,
Anno 1271. pag. 205
Philip the 4, the 46. king of France,
Anno 1286. pag. 211
Lewis the 10, who was surnamed Hu-
tin, the 47. king of France, Anno
1315. pag. 216
Philip the 5, the 48. king of France,
Anno 1317. pag. 223
Charles the 4, surnamed the Faire, the
49. king of France, Anno 1322.
pag. 228
Philip of Valois, the sixt of that Name,
the 50. king of France, Anno 1327. p. 232
A Relation of Edward the 3, King of
England, who was the first that quar-
tered the Armes of France, and made
it subject to England, Anno 1351.
pag. 237
John the 1, the 51. king of France, An-
no 1350. pag. 241
Charles the 5, surnamed the Wise, the 52
King of France, Anno 1364. p. 246
Charles the 6, the 53. King of France,
Anno 1380. pag. 251
A Re-

The Table.

A Relation of Henry the 5, king of England, who gave a great overthrow to the French at the Battaille of Cressay, and still maintained the right left him by Edward the 3. of England. Anno 1412. pag. 258

Charles the 7, the 54. king of France. Anno 1422. pag. 264

Lewis the 11. the 55. king of France. Anno 1461. pag. 269

Charles the 8, the 65. king of France. Anno 1483. pag. 281

Lewis the 12, the 57. king of France. Anno 1499. pag. 287

Francis of Valois, the first of that Name, was the 58. king of France. An. 1515 pag. 294

Henry the 2, the 59. king of France. Anno 1547. pag. 299

Francis the 2, the 60. king of France. Anno 1559. pag. 305

Charles the 9, the 61. king of France. Anno 1560. pag. 310

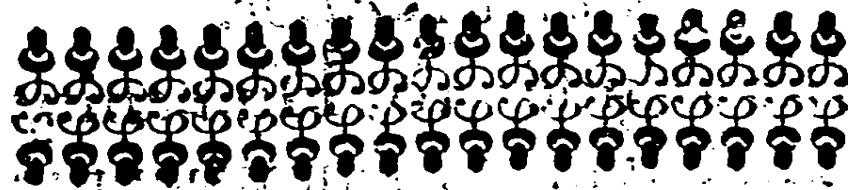
Henry the 3, the 62. king of France. Anno 1574. pag. 315.
Henry

The Table.

Henry the 4, surnamed the Great, the 63 king of France. An. 1589. pag. 320

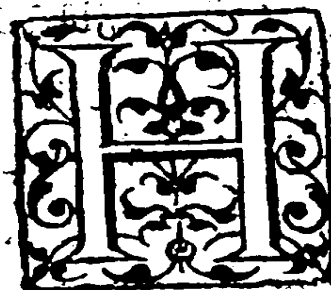
Lewis the 13, which now reigneth, styled the most Christian king, is the 64. King of France, and began his Reigne in the yeare 1610. pag. 331

FINIS.



To the Generous
Reader, the Translator
*presents his La-
bours, &c.*

Courteous Reader,



History hath been
from all *Antiqui-
ty* as Noble as
Notable, and as
full of *Pleasure* as *Profit*.
Poetry I must confesse to be
the elder Sister of the two,
and the first reducer of

A 4 Man-

To the Reader.

Mankind to Humanity and Civility : But what the Elder hath delivered unto us Fabulously, the other hath done faithfully.

Great is the Vtility which redounds to all men by History (of what function or quality soever :) First, to *Princes*, it is a modell, by which to paterne their Lives and Actions: And by reading the Heroicall deeds of others, to make their presidents, as well by imita-

To the Reader.

imitating their Vertues, as avoyding their Vices. To States-men how to establish politicke Lawes, and gravely to manage the Affaires of a flourishing Commonwealth. It instructs Sovereignes, how to governe with Justice, mixt with Lenity, and Subjects to obey with duty, tempered with loyalty.

Historiographers have in all Times and Ages, and amongst all Nations; and Lan-

To the Reader.

Languages bin held in great reputation and reverence. Amongst the *Hebrewes Philo-Judeus*, and *Josephus Bengorion*, who flourisht in the time of *Hierusalem* last subversion, and depopulation, &c. Amongst the *Grecians Herodotus, Tbucidides*, &c. Amongst the *Romans* or *Latins*, *Titus Livius, Cornelius Tacitus, Salust, Iustine*, &c. Amongst the *French*, *Philip Comines*: The Author of the *French*

To the Reader.

French Inventory, the Composer of this Epitome of *Chronicle*, &c. Of the *Scotch*, *Hector Boetius*, *Georgius Bucconanus*, &c. And of our *English* (to omit many) *Holynshed, Fabian, Speed, Mr. Samuel Daniel*, &c.

But concerning the present Argument now in agitation, I have read of one *Spintherus Tarentinus*, a man (for his knowne *VVisdom*) by the unanimous voyce

To the Reader.

voyce of Greece, adding an
Eight to the Seven Sages,
who when he was to deliver
his Opinion of Epaminon-
das, prime Captaine of ab-
solute power and command
withput limit; after he had
studied to honour him with
his best Expression, he ut-
tered of him onely these few
Words: *Hee was a man
who knew much, and spoke
little.* The like I may
say of the Author of this
present Worke, who
writ

To the Reader.

writ it first in the French
Language: who though
hee were frequent in all the
French Annals, having read
all their Voluminous re-
membrances at large, yet
was so farre from troub-
ling the Purse, or tyring
the Patience of the Rea-
der, that in his succinct-
nesse of stile, & contracted-
nesse of Circumstance, he
hath strived to spare both:
Imitating the old Adage,
*Frustra fit per plura, quod fieri
potest*

To the Reader.

potest per pauciora : and my selfe who am the unworthiest of many in this *Kingdom*, for the *Translation* of this *Work*e, have undertaken to make the *French History*, which I found accidentally, to speake *Englisb* : where, in the ensuing *Booke* thou shalt finde such mixture of *Discourses*, both *observeable*, *delightfull*, and worthy to be had in *memory*, containing al the Kings that ever were of *France*, which in number are
sixty

To the Reader.

sixty foure, with their *Conditions*, *Natures*, *chiefest Acts*, and *Deaths*, as also of these verall places of their *Interment*, with many of their acute and witty sayings : all which, noble and Courteous *Reader*, I present unto thee, with a Table of all the Kings names at the latter end of the *Book* : and if thou pleasest to accept of my endeavours, and but cast a benigne smile and a gentle censure, I shall take it a double
courte-

To the Reader.

courtesie, and labour to amend what hath beene done amisse. But least in commending the *Brevity* used in his *Discourse*, I might (on the contrary) erre in the proximity of my *Epistle*, I thus (though abruptly) as commit thee, so commend thee to thy gentle *Interpretation* :

Thine,

R. B.

I
An Epitome of all the lives
of the Kings of *France*, from
Pharamond their first, to the now
Reigning *Lewis* the 13.

Pharamond the first King of
France. Anno 429.



THE *French* Nation inhabiting
the lower *Germany* long time
before the Reigne of the *Val-*
entinians,

lentinians, Emperours of *Rome*, whether they were Originaries there, or Forraigners, they according to the report of *Aymoyms*, *Ado*, and other Historians, had for an intervall of time ceased to be governed by Kings, being contented to be ruled by Dukes, untill such time that they had a desire to returne to their manner and custome, being incited thereto by the example of other Nations; in so much that upon a mature deliberation, they concluded their Election upon *Pharamond* for their King, by reason that over and above the vertues resplendent in him, he was the last Sonne of their latest Duke *Marcomire*, who was Duke of *Franconia*, or *East France*, whom *Stilico* had confined as an Exulant in *Tuscany*, from the yeare of our Lord 395.

The time of his Election hath not beene precisely recorded by any Historians; the Moderne Authors also agree not upon the certainty and number of the yeares of his Reigne: For some

German

German Chronicles accompt but 7, others 9, *Onuphrius* 14, but almost all the *French* Annalists following *Sigebert*, agree upon 10. or 12. yeares, which they begin at the yeare of Grace, 419, or 420.

The *French-men* then estated him in the Castle of *Dispargun*, which was, according to *Gregory*, in *Tongry* or *Turingia*, on that side the *Rhine*, where hee made his residence, or rather in *Germany*, without an intent of enlarging his command any farther, studying onely to institute and found the Kingdome with good policy, and the Lawes called *Ripuary* and *Salique*, by reason the *French* inhabiting for the most part upon the River of *Sals*, (which disgorgeth it selfe into the *Mein*, a great and famous River of *Germany*) were called *Salians*, and their principall City *Selgestadt*, which peradventure might seeme to derive its nomination from *Selagast*, who was a chiefe Founder thereof. *Pharamond* lastly comming to

B 2

the

the period of his life, left the succession to his Son *Clodion*, *Anno Domini* 430. His Character of life is drawne in these Lineaments; he made good Lawes, and conformed the *French* to the obedience of civill government, revived the *Salique* Lawes, and was the Founder of the *French* Monarchy: his Name *Warmond* or *Pharamond*, imported a true mouth, Truth being a noble vertue in a Prince. The Church was then happy in those Lights of Religion, *Jerome*, *Chrysostome*, *Ambrose*, and *Augustine*, shining through the Clouds of Oppression, wherewith those times were darkened and obscured: And the Papacy was then but weake in power, afterward growing strong by the Emperors absence, warring against the *Barbarians*, and by succouring afflicted Christians.

Cloion

Cloion, or Clodion, the second King of France, Anno 432.



Cloion, or Clodion, according to *Sidonius*, *Apollinaris*, and *Gregory of Tours*, succeeded his Father *Pharamond* in the Regall estate in the yeare 432. of our Redemption. He was surnamed the *Hairy*, because hee commanded the *French men* to weare long

long haire in token of Liberty, to the end they might be knowne and distinguished from *Romans*: or (as some Moderne Writers will have it) to this end, that none should weare long haire, but those of the Royall blood. In the beginning of his Reigne, perceiving the *Romans* to bee employed altogether against the *Vandals* in *Africke*, and a notable dissention betweene *Actius* and *Boniface*, went from his Castle of *Dispargun*, and fastened upon *Cambray*, and all that Countrey which lyes betweene the Rivers of *Escant* and the *Somme*, where to this day are the Cities of *Monts*, *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, and the Forrest heretofore nominated * *Carbonaire*. Afterwards having made a great discomfiture of the *Romans*, who made head against him, hee came as farre as the Bourough of *St. Helens*, which is in the Land of *Artois*. He also subjugated those of *Thuringia*, the *Saxons*, and other populations of *Almaine*, as *Funeius* is of opinion. Others-

Coale-
orrest in
ur reinge.

thers also adde, that the City of *Mayence* was by him taken in: The *Hunimbalt* of *Trithemius* holds, that he divided his Kingdome into two parts, nominating that upon the Coast of the *Rhine* *Austrasie*, and the part upon the West, *Nenstria* or *Westria*.

The Chronicles of *Flanders* say, that he led his Army against those of *Therovenne*, otherwise called *Morinians*, whom he made subjects: they perceiving their Auxiliars the *Cinabres* and *Ruthenians*, and their Captaine General *Gondmar* overthrowne, who had a Daughter whom this *Clodion* caused to be married to a Nephew of his who was called *Flandebert*, from whom they will have the Countrey of *Flanders* to derive its first Nomination, although it is more evident that it was not so called before the time of *Charlemaigne*. He deceased in the 20. yeare of his Reigne, *Anno Domini* 450, according to *Ado* and *Aymoinus*, leaving (as *Jaques Meier* and *Richard of Wassebourgh* doe relate)

Ranchaine, or *Ranachaire* and *Alberic* (*alias*) *Auberon*, his sonnes. Wearing of long haire (as was said) was ordained by this King to bee the Ornament of Princes, whereby *Clodamire* slaine in Battaile, was knowne from the vulgar Souldiers, and shaving off the Haire was a Ceremony used at degrading of Kings; and Queene *Clotilde* suffered her Sonnes Heads to be cut off, rather than their Haire, preferring honour to life, and accounting the disgrace which her Children should receive by shaving, making them incapable of the Royall dignity, worse than death; for Life, after the decease of honour, is but a continuall lingring death. *Hippone* was now besieged by *Genferick*, King of the *Vandals*.

Saint *Augustine* being 76. yeeres old, having seene and suffered in the miseries of the Church, then generally afflicted by the *Barbarians*, wearied with being a Spectator of those Tragedies, withdrew to Heaven, and dyed, leaving

leaving the Christian World a mourner for his departure.

Merovæus, the third King of France.

Anno Domini 450.



M*erovæus*, Maire of the Palace of *Clodion* (according to *Jaques Meier* and *Richard of Wassebourg*, the Authors afore-said, which *Merovæus* neverthelesse the Abbot of *Urspberg*

Ussperg thinkes, and other *French* Historians are of opinion to have beene a Bastard-sonne, or a neare Kinsman of *Clodion*, was by the reason of his valour and experience in Warre, chosen King of the *French*, Anno Domini 450. secluding the Sonnes of *Clodion* from the inheritance of the Kingdome. Many are of opinion that he was the first that tooke upon him to March boldly all over the Countries of the *Gaules*, because by force of Armes hee opened the way into those parts, where none of his predecessors had had any peaceable habitation or abode. And for this cause hee being acknowledged by the Ancient *French* to be the first King to have passed so farre, the *Gaules* or *Frenchmen* were called *Merovinians*. Others are of opinion that it was, for that he was the first of the Line that reigned over the *French* untill *Pepin*, it being that the sonnes of *Clodion* were supplanted, who betooke themselves for assistance to their Mother in the Kingdome of *Thuringia*:

ringia, where being growne to age, by the ayde of other Nations recovered *Almany*, *Cambresis*, *Tournay*, *Henault*, and *Conloine*, of which parts they rearmmed themselves Kings, and maintained it against the *Merovinians*, untill the time of *Glovis*.

In the meane time *Attila*, King of the *Hunnes*, having spoiled a great part of *Europe*, laboured to joyne with the *Visigoths* and *French* to ruine the *Romans*, which was a cause that *Aetius* a *Roman* Gentleman, who had the command of all the *Roman* forces of the West, had this Warre in charge, who gave unto *Merovæus* the right wing of the Battaille against *Attila* who lost the field: This Battaille was fought in the *Catalaunicke* Plaine, which some esteeme to have beene that at *Chaalons* in *Champaigne*, others at *Solongne* by *Orleans*, who seeme better of opinion than those who would have it neare *Thoulouse*: because it is certaine that *Attila* never penetrated so farre into the Countrey.

Countrey of the *Visigoths*, where the Shock was so bloody and cruell, that there remained one hundred and fourescore thousand men slaine in the place. *Merovæus* yeelded to Fate in the tenth yeare of his Reigne, according to *Sigebert* and other Historians, *Anno Domini* 459.

This King was fortunate in his Warres, for after the Death of *Ætia*, executed by the Emperour *Valentinianus* command, being so faithfull a servant, that it was said that the Emperour had cut off his right hand with his left: by valour, potency, and opportunity hee advanced the Monarchy of *France*, growing more exact and compleate in strength, hee being the third Stone in that Royall building called *Gaule*, which new-begun Estate was raised to a greater perfection by many other Royall Builders, descended from his Race, and called *Merovingiers*, in memory of this *Merovee*, who, as *Titus Vespasian* said, *Non perdidit*

didit diem, so hee accounted that Day lost wherein hee did no good.

This worthy King was much lamented of all men, they gave him the solemne rites at his funerall, which appertained to a King in those dayes, which was teares and sorrow for forty dayes after.

The Church was now much troubled by the *Nestorian* and *Eutichean* Heresies; which weeds were by two Councils assembled at *Ephesus* and *Chalcedon*, plucked up out of the Garden of Christendome, and the true Christian Religion was now defended by *Cyrillus* and *Theoderet*, two stout Champions for the Church, who imployed their whole strength and power for the maintenance thereof, so that the remembrance of their pious and noble actions will continue in all ages to their eternall praise and commendation.

Chilperic

Chilperic or Hilperic the fourth King
of France, Anno 459.



Hilperic succeeded in the King-
dome by the favour of the me-
mory of his Father, Anno Do-
mini 459. notwithstanding that he sec-
med borne fitter to lead an Army, than
governe a Kingdome in Justice and
peace, by reason of his insolence and
lubricity,

lubricity, for which the great and po-
werfull men of his Kingdome enforced
him, having already reigned three
yeeres, to flye into the Kingdome of
Thuringia, there to expect the issue of
his fortune. But before his departure,
his friend *Vidomare*, (or as others re-
port *Guemans*) gave him his word
and promise, breaking a peece of Gold
betweene them, the King keeping the
one halfe, and he the other, advising
the King that hee should boldly returne
when he should receive the other halfe
from him.

Hereupon the French chose in his
place *Gilles* or *Gillon* Governour of *sa-*
issons under the *Romans*, who reigned
as King 8. yeeres, in the end whereof
Chilperic was re-appealed by *Vidomare*,
who had so dexterously carried him-
selfe, that *Gilles* himselfe wrought his
owne ruine & hatred which the French
conceived against him. *Chilperic* here-
upon endeavouring the recovery of his
Kingdome, gained a great battaile
against

against his Enemy *Agrippina*, which the French surname *Coloyne*. But in his returne hee sought an ill requitall to so good a friend and Host the King *Basin* of *Thuringia*, because hee tooke away with him *Basin's* Wife and Queene, carrying her with him into *France*, and of her begat *Clovis*. *Trithemius* the Abbot saith, that the Dutchies and Counties were erected and instituted by *Chilperic* in *France*, who distributed them to those of his blood. But it is more apparent, that the French comming into *Gaule*, retained onely the generall policy which the *Romans* had there planted, with the nominations of the Dutchies and Counties, which denominated no more than Provinces generall or subalterne. The *Bretons* of *Gaule Armorick* under him tooke their beginning, *Anno Domini* 460. as also the *Roman* Empire ceased in the West, *Anno Dom.* 477. *Chilperic* breathed his last in the 24. yeare of his Reigne, about the yeare 484.

The

The first part of *Chilpericks* Life and Reigne was much disgraced by his vicious government, and his owne actions, oppressing his Subjects, and for his lusts satisfaction, abusing their Wives and Daughters: but afterward, being awak'd by affliction, and rouch'd with the sense of his former wrongs, he changed his course of Life, and tooke pleasure onely in goodnesse, by his conversion gaining the affection of the French. Thus Affliction doth instruct not destroy a minde capable of Reason; for as Winter stormes kill not the Tree, but keepe downe the wanton sappe, which ascending in the Spring, makes it more fruitfull: so by adversity and misfortune the minde is somewhat oppressed, but by vertue it is reviv'd, and brings forth fruite of new conversion, and being dead unto former vices, lives onely to goodnesse, as this King, who in the last part of his life conquer'd his desires, and triumph'd in that noble Victory.

C

Clovis

Clovis 5. King of France, and the first
Christian King of that Nation. Anno 485:



His *Louis*, or *Lewis*, came to the
Crowne, *Anno Dom.* 485. at
the age of 15. He surmounted
through his magnanimity, the glory of
his predecessors: and wee must ascribe
the true entry of the *French* into *Gaule*
to him, according to the affirmation of
Gregory

Gregory of *Tours*, *Aymoyus*, *Ado*,
and the *Modernes*. For by the over-
throw by him given to *Siagrius*, Count
of *Soissons*, sonne of *Gilles* the *Roman*,
he reduced the Countie to the subjection
and Lawes of the *French*, and so a-
bolished that small power and com-
mand which the *Romans* at that time
had formerly, in those parts of *Gaule*,
537. yeares after it had beene subject-
ed to the *Roman* Empire by *Julius*
Cesar. After that he espoused *Clotilda*,
daughter of *Chilperic*, one of the Kings
of *Burgundy*, and being in the tenth
yeare of his reigne, he compelled the
Thuringians to receive and acknow-
ledge his Lawes. Hee obtained the
day at *Tolbiac* against the *Almaines*, re-
ducing their Kingdome into a Pro-
vince and Dukedome: at his returne
he became a Christian in the 15. yeare
of his reigne, and altered his Coate of
Armes. Neare unto *Dijon* hee over-
threw *Gondenbault* his wives uncle, and
in the 25 yeare of his reigne, hee slew

with his owne hands in a battaile *Alaric* King of the *Visigoths*, who was an *Arian*, and drove them out of *Gaule*, and by that meanes hee submitted to his Kingdome the Countrey of *Ango-lesme*, *Bourdelois*, *Perigort*, *Quercy*, *Rovergne*, *Albi*, *Anvergne*, and *Tholonze*, nothing remaining unconquered of *Gaule*, but *Provence*, and a part of *Languedoc*. Afterwards being honoured with a Patriciall dignity by the Emperour *Anastasi*, he removed himselfe to *Paris*, where he established the Regall seat of his Kingdome. Others affirme, that in defiance and despite of all his greatest friends and kinsmen, who at that time commanded a great part of *France*, siezing their Estates and Lordships, prevented a disturbance of his estate like to ensue. He reigned 30. yeares, and lyes inhumed and *St. Peter*, and *St. Paul*, now called *St. Genovesue*, yeelding his last breath *Anno Domin. 513.* leaving foure Children, *Childebert*, King of *Paris*, *Clodomire* of *Orle-*
ance,

ance, *Clotharius* of *Soyssons*, *Theodoricke* a bastard, sonne of his K. of *Metts*, and two daughters; besides that sonne which was slaine in the wars. The Kingdome that was in its infancy of growth was twice mangled and dismembred.

In the time of this warre, there came a messenger, that brought the King tydings how that one of his sonnes was dead: upon the receipt of which newes he presently tooke the Crowne from off his head, and fell into a heavy and melancholly passion, insomuch, that for the time he was quite bereaved of his naturall sence; which the messenger seeing, added this to his former tale, that his sonne dyed victoriously; hearing of which words, he revived, and tooke up the Crowne, and set it againe upon his Head, and so rested satisfied. When *Richar* Duke of *Cambray*, a man of bad conditions and lewd life, was by the King taken prisoner, and put to death, being betrayed by the trea-

chery of his Barons, they imagining, as *Seneca* saith, that *Prosperum ac felix scelus, virtus vocatur*: That fortunate Treachery, should be esteemed vertuous piety: and being not content with certaine richly guilt Corcelets of Copper, which the King had formerly sent them to procure the effecting of the aforesaid Treason, they complained unto him, that they were but badly recompenced. He answered, The gift of your lives is a sufficient reward for Traytors, who deserve torments rather than preferments for betraying their Lord & Master. Your lives which I suffer you to enjoy, is no small benefit and favour. For Kings, though they seeme to allow Treason, cannot love the Traytor. The Traitors thus upbraided with their wicked nesse, and condemned by their conscience, slunke away from his presence.

Childebert

Childebert, the sixth King of France.
Anno 514.



C Hildebert, the eldest sonne of Clovis, succeeded in the Kingdom of *Paris*, which was the Regall Seate of the Monarchy of France, Anno Domini 514. Upon his undertaking the government, he was by his Brothers instigated, and his Mother

ther *Clotilda* to the revenge of the death of his Father and Mother, who were by *Gondebault* murdered: whereupon making Warres upon the *Burgundians*, their King *Sigismund* was taken in a Battaille, and together with his Queene and Progeny was throwne into a Well at *Orleans*. After that, they retreated against *Gondemar*, brother to *Sigismund*, where *Clodomire* was slaine in the pursuite. By the meanes whereof, and the Warres following upon the whole Countrey of *France*, *Gondemar* tooke possession of *Burgundy*: Whilst *Theodorick* afterwards was against *Hermensfroy* for the estating himselfe in the Kingdome of *Thuringia*, by the ayde and assistance of his brother *Clotharius*; *Childebert* seized upon the County of *Auvergne*, but having intelligence of the returne of his Brother *Theodorick*, whom he supposed to have beene dead, he went into *Spaine*, against *Almerick*, King of the *Visigoths*, on a quarrell for the ill usage of his Sister *Clotilda*, which

Alarick

Alarick hee slew neare to *Toledo*, and tooke that City: and upon his returne he reduced *Gascogne* to his obedience, chasing the *Visigoths* backe againe into *Spaine*, by this meanes making the *Frenchmen* sole possessors of both the *Gaules*, excepting one part of *Provence*, which for a time remained in the hands and power of the *Ostrogoths* of *Italy*. *Childebert* upon his returne from *Spaine*, went with *Clotharius* to beate *Gondemar* out of his Kingdome, which was divided betweene them, as also that of *Orleans* was, after the slaughter of the children of their brother *Clodomire*, except *Claudius* that made an escape.

About that time *Theodobald*, King of the *Ostrogoths* of *Italy*, yeelded up all the possessions they had in *Provence*, into the power of the *French*, to the end that they should joyne forces with him against *Belisarius*, Captaine Generall of the Army of the Emperour *Justinian* in *Italy*, in the interim that

Childebert

Childebert and *Theodobert* through ambition were in an ill course against *Clotharius*; but these being reconciled by the Nobility of the Countrey, *Childebert* and *Clotharius* went into *Spaine*, and surprised *Saragoca*. Afterwards upon a plot of *Cranne*, a Nephew of his, hee made Warre upon *Clotharius*, who being too eager and earnest to scour the Field, and cleare him of his Enemies, hee dyed, in the 45. yeare of his Reigne, *Anno Domini* 558, and according to *Sigebert & Aymoyus*, 49. Hee lyeth inhumed at *St. Germans des prez*.

This King was much troubled by his Brethren, with whom he had a divided power, and ruled as the chiefe King; But Sovereignty admits no Partners, for Royall power, like an entire streame, fed by the Spring, whence it descended, will not mingle with other Titles, but doth maintaine an absolute and undenyed Prerogative. His troublesome Reigne concluded with his fatall death,
for

for he was slaine by a wilde Bull, which he hunted, the manner of his death being an Embleme of his life; for in his life hee persud wilde imaginations and vaine desires, untill this sad mischance layd him to rest in a Grave, to shew the vanity of humane designs, which are so soone strooke dead, such is the glory of this World. There is no vertue in this life, except it be to love the thing that is to be beloved; and to love that, is Prudence; and not to be moved or troubled for any matter of molestation, that is Fortitude; nor for any matter of Flattery and delight, that is Temperance; nor for pride, that is Justice.

Clotharius

Clotharius I. the seventh King of
France. Anno 559.



Clotharius, the third legitimate
Sonne of King Clovis, having
reigned 45. yeares at *Soissons*,
(which is now called the *Belgick Gaule*)
upon the decease of his Brother *Childe-
bert*, who dyed without issue Males,
was proclaimed the 7. King of *France*:
which

which his Sonne *Cranne* perceiving, as
being now destitute of the support of
his Uncle *Childebert*, by whose assistance
he managed strong Warres against this
his owne Father, came and cryed him
mercy. But hee made so mall use of his
fathers Grace and goodnesse, that hee
committed againe a new Fellony and
Rebellion against him: And when his
latter proceedings began to bee worse
and worse in successe than before, hee
fled to *Conobre*, or (as others say) *Ca-
nabo*, Prince and Count of the *Bre-
tons*, who entertained him, and un-
dertooke to secure him from his Father.
Whereupon his Father *Clotharius* with
his Army invaded that Countrey,
where they joyned Battaille, wherein
the *Bretons* lost the Field, their Prince
being slaine in the place, and *Cranne*
taken Prisoner, whom his Father cau-
sed to be thut up in a house, and toge-
ther with his Wife and children to bee
all burnt to death. But *Clotharius* being
the last of the Sonnes of King *Clovis*,
dyed

carefully, abolishing those which are evil: Impose no Taxes on thy Subjects, but upon great occasion. Favour those that feare GOD, love Justice, and hate Covetousnesse: Let not thy Judge be impartiall against thy Subjects: Keepe the Cities and Townes gotten by thy Predecessors; preferre good and sufficient men to Benefices and Offices: Be an Example to thy Subjects, moderate the expences of thy Court, and so God blesse thee. These were the good instructions which this godly Monarch gave unto his Sonne for the leading of an upright life, and to abandon all worldly delights and pleasures, so as hee might both please God, and be a patterne to his inferiours.

Philip

Philip 3. the 45. King of France.
Anno 1271.



After the decease of S. Lewis, Philip the third, surnamed the Hardy, his eldest sonne, having beene proclaimed King in the Campe before Tunis in Africk, tooke his journey in his returne through Italy, directly to Viterbe, to make an agreement between

tweene the Cardinals, who in two years space were in a dissention upon the Election of a Pope. Hee was Crowned at *Rheimes* by the Bishop of *Soissons*, the thirtieth of *August*, *Anno Dom.* 1271. He after incorporated the County of *Tholouse* to the Crowne, upon the decease of the Count *Alphonse* his uncle. He went to aide *Gerard* of *Cassebonne*, his Subjects, against the Counts of *Armignu* and *Foix*, by reason whereof, the Count of *Foix* submitted himselfe to his mercy. He restored the Countrey of *Navarre* to the obedience of *Ioane*, daughter of the late *Henry* King of *Navarre* deceased. The King married *Mary*, the daughter of *Henry* Duke of *Brabant*, who was suspected to have poysoned *Lewis*, the eldest sonne of the King, by his first wife *Isabelle* of *Aragon*: She was found innocent by the report of two Bishops who were sent to a Nunne, or rather a Sorceresse, to know the truth. The yeare after *Peter Dela Bresche*, great Chamberlaine of

France,

France, and superintendant of the *Finances*, and affaires of the King, was hanged, being accused and convicted, for having discovered the secrets of *France* to the King of *Spaine*, together with the death of the Kings sonne. *Anno Domini* 1282. the *Sicilian* Evensong were executed upon the *Frenchmen*, upon an Easter day, or (as others report) on the thirtieth of *March*, or thirteenth of *April*: whereupon *Charles*, Uncle to the King, offered battaile to *Peter* of *Aragon*, the author thereof, but he refused it. Afterwards the King having caused *Ioane*, the onely daughter of the late *Henry*, King of *Navarre*, to be married to his eldest sonne *Phillip*, he marched with his Army for the Conquest of *Aragon*, which by the Pope had been given to *Charles de valois*, the second sonne of *Philip*, who conquered the County of *Russillon*; after that the City of *Gennes*. And after that, having in an *Embuscado* slaine the King of *Aragon*, he forced the Towne of *Gironne*

to

to be yeelded up. He went to conclude his Fate at the Towne of *Perpignan*, of a Malady which surpris'd him in his Campe, *Anno Domini* 1285. the 6. of *October*.

This King, as it appeares in the whole course of his life, would engage himselfe in all busineses, and was therefore called the *Hardy*; but his desperate Father would not undertake his Neighbours quarrells, nor seek to make betwene them any agreement, unlesse it might be done by safe and quiet means. The reigne of this King was much disturbed by the warres maintained by *Peter* and *Roger* for the Isle of *Sicily*, and after much effusion of blood, *Charles* dyed, and also *Peter*, though politicke, could not deceive death, but having received a great overthrow, concluded his Act of life with grieve and sorrow. At last this King was by *Roger*, Admirall of *Arragon*, friend unto *Peter* set upon him, lying sicke a bed at *Pepignan*; yet in extremitie he exprest a noble courage,

rage, and with his sicke weake voyce so encouraged his Souldiers, that *Roger* was droven out of *Pepignan*, the City held by *Philip* so distempered with this alarm, that he grew sicke and dyed the fifteenth of *October*, two moneths after *Peter*, Pope *Martin* the fourth dying the same yeare, 1286. to shew great Princes, that their chiefe designs are crost by death.

It was now decreed in a Counsell at *Lions*, that the Cardinals meeting after the Popes death, should not come out of that Conolme untill they had chosen the Pope, which begun upon occasion of the tedious Election of the former Pope, and the Decree is still observed. *Thomas Aquinas* now dyed, being a subtile disputer: But *Bonaventure*, *John Duns*, called *Scot*, and *Gabriel Biel* succeeded, and were famous schollers.

And to conclude, hee was a Prince borne for a testimony to that obscure age, and for corrupted times, to bee a patterne to all Kings and Princes of religion,

*The Englishman an Angellis, which
trusted will deceive thee;
Beware of him as of a Foe, when he doth
say God save thee.*

After his marriage with *Blanch*, daughter of *Philip* of *Evreux*, he lived not long after he had tyed this knot, this new wife being an unnecessary trouble in his old age; so that sickning at *Nogent*, advising his two sonnes to live in peace, and bee carefull of the Realme, which he resigned to the eldest, he concluded his reigne, and dyed. He was a King in whom vertues and vices were equally mingled; for he was valiant in danger, and couragious in affliction, just and loving to his subjects. But his rash valour, whereon hee presumed often, engaged him and his subjects in many miseries.

Edward

*Edward the third, King of England.
Anne 1351.*



His King comes here to be inserted amongst the Kings of *France*, being the first that left the Title Hereditary to the Kings of *England*, and first quartered the Armes of *France* with the *English* Armes, giving thereby occasion and provocation
of

of his succeeding Warres, he obtained a gentle victory at *Sluce*, upon Midsummer day in a sea fight : Afterward he challenged *Philip* of *Valois*, then King, to a single combate, by him not accepted, afterwards makes a Truce with *France*, their battailes being ready to joyne in *Britagne* in *France*, then he declares the Truce with *France* broken. He arrives afterward in *France* with bloody Colours, with his hopefull son the Prince of *Wales*, then about sixteen yeares old. Afterward he got the *Lawrell* wreath of Conquest in the battaile of *Cressy*; and his sonne was as victorious as his Father, both sharing equally in honour purchased by valour. But his sonne afterward, whose veines were full of his Fathers Spirit and fortitude, shewing that *Nasci a Principibus est magnum*, obtained another triumphant victory against the *French* at *Poitiers*, and by it confirmed his Fathers achievements.

Then againe *Henry* invaded *France*,
besieges

besieges *Paris*, concludes a peace: King *John* of *France* being taken prisoner, and afterward ransomed, hostages were also given, and so the Clouds of warre were a while drawne away : but suddenly againe *France* felt a new storme from *England*; for the Earle of *Blois* slaine in Battaille by the *English*, loseth the Dukedome of *Britagne*. Then againe King *Edward* sends *John* Duke of *Lancaster* to invade *France*, and Sir *Robert* *Knoles* to the parts about *Britagne*: and thus, as he was famous for his many other Royall vertues expressed done at home, and in the circumference of his owne Dominions, so likewise he appeared in *France* like a flaming Comet, which boded the effusion of much *French* blood: But age & sicknesse comming on hee was forc't to leave the world, as the same did him before his breath left him: but Nature could not hold out any longer, and he was forced to resigne his life into the hands of his Creator at *Shene*, (now *Rich-*

Richmond) the one and twentieth day of June, Anno Domini 1377. in the 64. yeare of his Age, having reigned fifty yeares, foure moneths, and odde dayes; in which time France felt the desolation which warre had made, he carrying away the never dying Fame of a valiant Conquerour, he lyeth buried at Westminster, for as much of him as was Mortall; but *Multum sui vitabit Libitinam*, his soule and Fame are immortall in Heaven and on earth, and was especially famous for Conquering France, and writing himselfe, *Roy de Angle terre & France, King of England and France.*

Philip

John I. or the second of that name, the 1. King of France, Anno, 1350.



JOH N the first, or second of that Name, succeeded to the Crown, and was consecrated at Rheims the 26. of Septem. An Dom. 1350. In the beginning of his reigne hee caused the Lord Ralph of Nesle, Cōstable of France, to be beheaded for Treason, and in his
R place